Queer eye for the working guy
Eric Ganther's new 'Queer Careers' column debuts today.
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Stereotypical dolls in the Castro
To some, Trash Talkers cross the line; others say they're in poor taste.
page 12



Ireland's passion
Looking for love in the pages of the B.A.R.
see Arts section



BAY AREA REPORTER

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Serving the gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender communities since 1971

SFPD inspectors stabbed; man held

by Cynthia Laird

Two veteran lesbian San Francisco Police inspectors were stabbed Monday, August 11 outside a home in Daly City as they investigated a cabdriver suspected of shooting a pellet gun at a family earlier in the day in San Francisco. The suspect, identified by Daly City Police as Jerry Lariosa Cabonce, was arrested after a SWAT team stormed the house. He will face attempted murder charges.



Rick Gerharter

Lea Militello

Inspector Lea Militello, 44, co-chair of the SFPD's Pride Alliance association of LGBT officers, and Inspector Patricia Correa, 51, were being treated for their injuries at San Francisco General Hospital. Both were expected to recover, an SFPD spokesman said. Both women have been on the force for more than 20 years.

Correa was stabbed twice in the left side of her lower torso and suffered a collapsed lung. SFPD spokesman Dewayne Tulley said she will remain in the hospital for a few more days. Militello was stabbed once in the upper chest. At press time, Tulley said Militello was expected to be released from the hospital as early as Tuesday afternoon.

Acting Police Chief Alex Fagan Sr. visited both inspectors at the hospital Monday and told reporters, "We're very fortunate that both officers survived and were not more seriously injured."



Rick Gerharter

Patricia Correa

The incident occurred outside the Daly City home Cabonce, 41, shares with his parents and brother. According to the *San Francisco Chronicle*, Cabonce is an ex-convict with a history of violence dating back to 1987.

According to police, Militello and Correa were following up on a report that a driver in his Yellow taxicab had fired a pellet gun at two people around 8 a.m. Monday in the 800 block of Powell Street. When the inspectors arrived at Cabonce's home, he jumped out of his taxi and engaged both officers. Witnesses said Cabonce had a butcher knife in his hand.

The man allegedly stabbed Correa first, then turned to Militello, who had been driving, stabbing her in the

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Schwarzenegger mum on gay rights – so far

by Cynthia Laird

Charging into the huge field of candidates looking to replace Governor Gray Davis in the October 7 recall election, action film star Arnold Schwarzenegger vowed to "clean house" in Sacramento and promised to be a governor for all Californians when he surprised many by entering the race on *The Tonight Show* last Wednesday, August 6.

Davis, a Democrat, is now fighting for his political life and there were nearly 115 candidates approved for the recall ballot at press time. Schwarzenegger, however, by virtue of his star power, has thrown the historic election into the national spotlight.



Jane Philomen Cleland

Governor Gray Davis

Gay political activists expressed surprise at Schwarzenegger's late entry into the race, and at press time, many were still waiting to hear the Republican movie star's views on gay rights. It has been widely reported that Schwarzenegger is a moderate who supports gay rights and is pro choice, though specifics were not available and Schwarzenegger refused to answer a question concerning gay marriage during a media appearance last week.

In a frequently quoted interview he gave *Cosmopolitan*, Schwarzenegger said, "I have no sexual standards in my head that say 'this is good' or 'this is bad.' 'Homosexual' – that only means to me that he enjoys sex with a man and I enjoy sex with a woman. It's all legitimate to me."



A media circus surrounds Arnold Schwarzenegger as he announces he's running for governor.

Voters will be asked a two-part question on the recall ballot: should Davis be recalled, and if so, who should replace him. While Davis needs a majority of no votes on the first question to remain in office, a candidate could replace him with only a plurality of the vote.

Polls released early this week showed the recall winning handily. A CNN/*USA Today*/Gallup Poll showed 64 percent of respondents in favor of recalling Davis, compared to 29 percent who said he should remain in office.

Jeffrey Bissiri, chairman of Log Cabin Republicans California, told the *Bay Area Reporter* Monday, August 11 that his group expects Schwarzenegger to be supportive of gay issues, but added they haven't heard any specifics.

"I think we're all sort of waiting to see," Bissiri said. "Arnold certainly is sounding all the right notes as far as we're concerned. Republicans in the 21st century need to sound like that."

He was referring to Schwarzenegger's statement last Wednesday that he wanted to be a

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LGBT progressives react to Gonzalez mayoral campaign

by Zak Szymanski

Last week's surprising entrance of Board of Supervisors President and Green Party member Matt Gonzalez into the San Francisco mayor's race had some obvious consequences for leftist voters; many were uncomfortable with another candidate potentially splitting the vote among progressives, while others hailed the decision as exactly what was needed to beat the perceived front-runner Supervisor Gavin Newsom.



Cynthia Laird

Board of Supervisors President Matt Gonzalez is running for mayor.

Immediate speculation was that many lefties would jump ship, transferring their support from candidate and Supervisor Tom Ammiano to Gonzalez. But many LGBT voters – including LGBT Green Party members – say they are steadfast in their support for Ammiano. And while some welcome Gonzalez to the race, others are disturbed by some of the more subtle inferences of Gonzalez's candidacy.

"I'm not changing anything. I'm supporting Ammiano all the way," said Jerry Threet, a gay Green and past president of the Harvey Milk LGBT Democratic Club, which endorsed Gonzalez for supervisor in 2000. Threet, a founding member of Lavender Greens, actually called for a meeting, he said, to try to talk Gonzalez out of running for mayor, as he has "yet to hear an argument on how this doesn't damage progressives' chances."

While many may believe that Gonzalez has a better chance when it comes to one-on-one debates with Newsom, "it takes a campaign to win an election," said Threet, "not a sterling performance in a debate."

And underneath the perception that Ammiano cannot beat Newsom, said Threet, is a very subtle message that queer candidates cannot get elected.

"There's this whole thing with the progressive community that we need a strong, macho man to come out fighting. I think some progressives may be thinking, 'Is Am-

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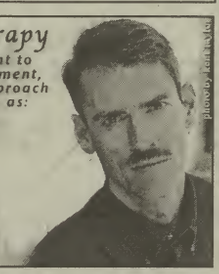
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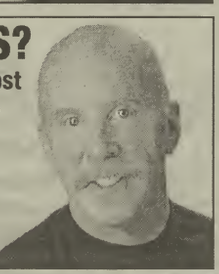


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Farewell to former editor



Rick Gerharter

Southern California residents Jerry Baughman, left, and his partner Brad Lentz, childhood friends of former Bay Area Reporter news editor Mike Salinas, shared funny memories at the memorial service for Mr. Salinas, held Thursday, August 7 in the Gazebo at Davies Medical Center in San Francisco. About 40 people attended the celebration of Mr. Salinas's life, including his father, Rick Salinas, colleagues from the B.A.R., and many friends and activists. People reflected on Mr. Salinas's life and shared stories about his work in helping make the B.A.R. a newspaper that truly serves the LGBT community. Mr. Salinas, 46, died July 15 at his home in New York City.

Queer youth center in medical pot club furor

by Liz Highleyman

Last week the attention of the media and public officials turned to a group of medical marijuana dispensaries in downtown Oakland. Leading the complaints against the pot club proliferation was Sexual Minority Alliance of Alameda County, an organization serving LGBT youth.

"Our goal is to give young people options, not introduce them to smelling weed," SMAAC Executive Director Roosevelt Mosby told the *Oakland Tribune*. "The smell is so strong in our basement that they don't have to buy it – they can go down there and breathe deeply."

The now infamous concentration of medical marijuana outlets in the northern part of downtown Oakland has been dubbed "Oaksterdam" for its resemblance to parts of Amsterdam that are home to many cannabis cafes. More than half a dozen clubs are situated in the area around Telegraph Avenue and Broadway between 17th and 19th streets.

The clubs range from clearly medical patient cooperatives such as Compassionate Caregivers to clubs like the Bulldog Coffeeshop, which has adopted the name and logo of an Amsterdam cafe geared toward recreational pot users.

While California's Proposition 215 and city law allow for the medical use of cannabis with a doctor's recommendation – and the Oakland police generally take a "hands off" stance toward the clubs – the federal government does not recognize any legitimate medical use of the herb, and in recent years has stepped up prosecution of medical marijuana patients and providers.

The Oakland City Council supported the pioneering Oakland Cannabis Buyers Club, which was shut down by the Drug Enforcement Administration in 1998 and took its case all the way to the Supreme Court, suffering a defeat in May 2001. More recently Oakland was in the news in connection with the trial of Ed Rosenthal, who was deputized by the city to grow medical marijuana for patients. Rosenthal was convicted of cannabis cultivation last February, but in a surprise move in June, a judge sentenced him to just one day in prison. The federal government said last month that it would appeal the sentence.

Mayor Jerry Brown has ordered an investigation of the dispensaries in the downtown area – which he has slated for economic redevelopment – saying he wants to ensure that they adhere to the spirit of the law.

"No one is questioning the availability of medical marijuana," Brown told the *Tribune*. "The question is, under what circumstances should use take place?"

City Council President Ignacio de la Fuente was more vociferous in his opposition, stating, "These clubs are totally illegal. They are coming here to make money, and we're going to shut them down."

SMAAC's youth center is located on Telegraph Avenue between Compassionate Caregivers and the Lemondrop Cafe. Mosby said the center – which serves many queer youth at risk for substance abuse – finds it difficult to promote a drug-free message in such an environment.

Crystal Weston, SMAAC's director of training and development, said in a recent opinion piece that SMAAC participants have been approached by cannabis club members seeking to resell their marijuana. The organization has called for greater city regulation of the dispensaries.

"If there were 10 liquor stores here, I'm sure the City Council and other community members would do something about it," Mosby said at a press conference last Friday.

Joel Tena, an aide to Vice Mayor Nancy Nadel who represents the "Oaksterdam" area on the City Council, said that besides SMAAC there have been few complaints about the clubs, and some locals seem to welcome the increased activity in the economically depressed neighborhood.

"We see the medical marijuana dispensaries as enhancing the neighborhood," Tena told the *San Francisco Chronicle*. "We know here in the city of Oakland that medical marijuana is literally something that keeps people alive. We want to make sure it's available if they need it."

The *Bay Area Reporter* was unable to reach the Lemondrop Cafe by press time and a spokeswoman for Compassionate Caregivers said the organization has a policy of not commenting to the press. ▼

Asian groups to host picnic Saturday

by Matthew S. Bajko

Several gay Asian groups are hosting a picnic, dubbed the "Rice Bowl," this weekend in the South Bay. The event is being billed as an outdoor day of fun and frolicking for queer Asian Pacific Islanders and their friends.

The event is being co-sponsored by the Gay Asian Pacific Alliance, Asian Pacific Islander Wellness Center, Asian Pacific Islander Queer Women's and Transgender Coalition, and Trikone, a South Asian co-gender organization.

The groups are providing non-alcoholic drinks, grill and charcoal; attendees are asked to bring their own food.

The picnic will begin at 11 a.m. Saturday, August 16 at Flood Park in Menlo Park. There is a $5 car entrance fee.

Flood Park is located at 215 Bay Road. To reach the park, exit Highway 101 at the Marsh Road exit. Head westbound on Marsh Road toward Atherton. Proceed approximately three blocks and turn south (left) onto Bay Road. The park entrance is about a half mile down the road.

For more info contact kevin@gapa.org or ericson@gapa.org. ▼

Lawsuit demands IRV

by Zak Szymanski

As promised, a coalition of groups filed a lawsuit against the San Francisco Department of Elections on Monday, August 11, charging that Elections Director John Arntz's refusal to implement the voter-approved instant runoff voting system by this November is illegal, unwarranted, and politically motivated.

The lawsuit was filed in San Francisco Superior Court on behalf of plaintiffs including the Congress of California Seniors, Chinese Progressive Association, San Francisco Labor Council, AFL-CIO, California PIRG, and the Center for Voting and Democracy. Individuals named as plaintiffs include Enrique Asis, Gwenn Craig, Arthur Chang, and Tracy Baxter.

"I think people kind of expected it would come to this," Steven Hill, of the Center for Voting and Democracy, told the *Bay Area Reporter* after the suit was filed. "At a certain point, when a city bureaucracy continues to refuse to implement a law, what else is there to do?"

The suit seeks an immediate judicial order to stop the Elections Commission and director from violating the city charter, according to plaintiffs, which voters amended in March 2002 to replace December runoffs with an instant runoff or ranked choice system for elections of city officials.

City officials have claimed that the state's inability to certify its voting equipment is responsible for the delay, and coupled with the October recall election, there simply isn't enough time to put the infrastructure in place.

Plaintiffs have countered that the state could certify the equipment by September, giving San Francisco more time to prepare for the election than it has to prepare for the recall. And even if the equipment is not in place, they said, a hand count can be used as a temporary measure; the group already has a $250,000 estimate from a contractor who has promised IRV results within days.

"Arntz has said he needs 90 days to prepare for the November election. The question we're asking the court is, why is it he can get ready for a recall in 70 days when he's ordered to do so? He wanted to pull the plug [on IRV] in July when there were 120 days left," said Hill, adding that the refusal to implement IRV comes from the political linkage between Mayor Willie Brown, the elections department, state officials, and mayoral hopeful Supervisor Gavin Newsom. IRV would likely hurt Newsom's chances of victory in November.

"Connect the dots," said Hill, "and it's obvious what's going on."

A Superior Court judge will hear the matter on Wednesday, August 20. ▼

BOE champions DP property tax parity

by Cynthia Laird

Adding to the recent spate of equal rights victories for lesbian and gay couples in the United States, the California Board of Equalization on Wednesday, August 6 adopted amendments to property tax rule 462.240 that relate to intestate succession property transfers for domestic partners.

The 3-2 vote by the BOE marks the final stage of a five-month process in which the state tax panel created rules to guarantee fair treatment for gay couples, and furthers a surprising trend in civil rights accomplishment, given the current administration in Washington, noted BOE Chairwoman Carole Migden.

The rules could go into effect as early as this fall, and will apply solely to couples registered in the state of California as domestic partners.

Previously, the transfer of real property by intestate succession from a deceased domestic partner to the surviving partner triggered an automatic reassessment of the property. Frequently, this resulted in the surviving partner losing his or her house during the difficult mourning process.

The BOE's rule change means

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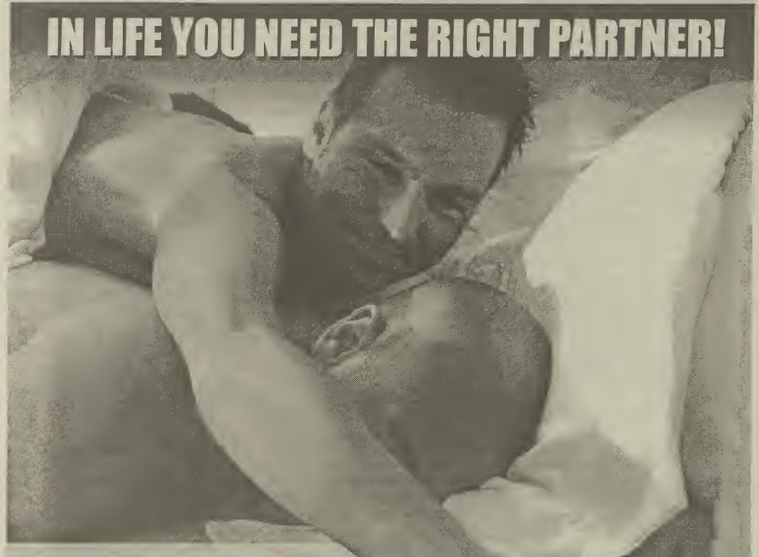
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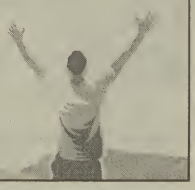
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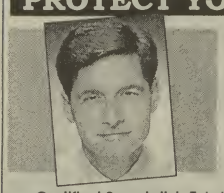

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Gay Catholics wade into political fray after Vatican's edict



Steve Friess

Members of DignityUSA lead about 40 gay and lesbian couples in a Catholic liturgy to bless the same-sex relationships in an August 10 ceremony to cap the biennial national convention in Las Vegas.

by Steve Friess

Kevin Shellooe and Wayne Shupe of San Jose insist that when they stood with dozens of other same-sex Catholic couples on Sunday morning, August 10 in a makeshift chapel in Las Vegas decked with cacti, their focus was primarily on blessing and affirming their 15-year relationship.

Yet they also acknowledge that the group ceremony, which was long planned but came 10 days after the Roman Catholic Church issued its edict branding same-sex relationships as "against the natural moral law," took on a new, unavoidable political connotation.

"As a couple, we are very angry

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Center signs agreement with HIV men's group

by Cynthia Laird

Thriving in SF, a grassroots HIV support group, has signed an agreement with the LGBT Community Center and will continue to hold its regular coffee meetings in the building, including its next session this Saturday, August 16.

Center Executive Director Thom Lynch told the *Bay Area Reporter* last week that he signed a memorandum of understanding with the group that allows it to meet free of charge at the center, although he added Thriving is paying a small donation. The group had been meeting at the center under a verbal agreement.

"Basically, we had a verbal agreement in the past and now it's just written down," Lynch said.

Thriving member Tim Patten agreed. "We all felt better" once the written agreement was signed, he said.

Thriving in SF is a non-aligned HIV-positive group that formed after an article by Greg Rowe appeared last August in the now defunct *San Francisco Frontiers* newsmagazine. By last October, the article had inspired many gay HIV-positive men to gather together using a simple Yahoo group e-mail list on the Internet. Each man, while suffering from various social and medical problems associated with HIV, found mutual support and solace in the group, according to a statement from Patten and Will Boemer.

"Soon we were meeting in members' homes in San Francisco, while drawing from the greater Bay Area HIV-positive populace," Patten and Boemer stated. "Most members live in San Francisco, but the group reaches out to the East Bay and Marin HIV-positives as well. The fledgling group had little or no direction and seemed to have a difficult time 'swimming upstream.'"

Late last year, a steering council evolved consisting of a financial planner, health advocate, marketing and management consultants, as well as men interested in the group's direction. The steering council includes 20-plus year survivors of AIDS and encourages life-affirming collaboration of experiences that see optimism and friendship as key roles.

Patten said that the purpose of the Saturday sessions is deliberately light.

"We try to keep them fun and social," he said, adding that topics like dating frequently come up.

Membership in Thriving is at about 55 people, Patten said, adding that attendance at the Saturday afternoon meetings varies widely. "Sometimes five people show up, sometimes it's 25 people."

Patten, himself a long-term AIDS survivor, said he and other Thriving members have noticed that younger people are often afraid to come out about their HIV status.

"It's really interesting that the HIV population isn't very out," Patten said. "We talk about it. We talk about safe sex. We're finding this is a huge closeted subject."

John Cailleau, another member of Thriving, said he got fed up with other HIV support groups.

"I grew tired of the traditional HIV support groups that focused on drugs and dying queens," Cailleau said. "I found Thriving a much more powerful forum, and the center is the perfect place for us to be."

In addition to the Saturday meetings at the community center, Thriving offers other meetings at members' homes. Patten said that one of the most powerful is the "Our Stories, Our Lives, Ourselves," during which the men share their HIV stories and how they are thriving in spite of living

next page ▶

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Savage not running for gov

by Ed Walsh

Conservative radio talk show host Michael Savage says that although he had a good shot at the job, he won't run for governor of California.

"I could have been the biggest wild card in this election," Savage told his radio listeners on Monday, August 11. "But I don't want to be a politician."

By the middle of last week, Savage had quietly backed off a possible run in the recall race, days before the Saturday deadline for filing papers. The host told his listeners that he probably wouldn't run because that would mean he would have to give up his radio show. He made it official on his Web site this week.

Savage wrote: "I can do more good in radio. More influence, fewer controls. The political system means compromise. I tend to be uncompromising in my views. Further, how can a true conservative who believes in secure borders, English-only, and our common cultural ties, influence our out-of-control proto-Marxist California? Only by speaking directly to you, the voter. You must make the changes; first at the local level; then, at the state level; on to the national level."

When Arnold Schwarzenegger announced on Wednesday, August 6, that he was running, Savage ran part of the actor's press conference live and said he could support him. But the following day, Savage interviewed Republican gubernatorial candidate Bill Simon and said he would support Simon after Simon promised to crack down on illegal immigration.

This week, Savage called Schwarzenegger "a Democrat in Republican clothes."

The host said he was concerned that the actor would be too liberal to overcompensate for his father, who was a member of the Nazi Party. Savage also sarcastically suggested that Schwarzenegger would be given a litmus test for his stand on gay rights because "that's the only issue that really matters."

Last month, Savage was fired from his MSNBC talk show after he told a crank caller that he should "get AIDS and die." Savage later apologized but he said he was "set up."

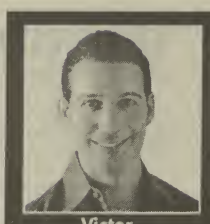
In an exclusive LGBT press interview with the *Bay Area Reporter* just after his MSNBC show began in March, Savage insisted he's not antigay. The host and author added that he has many gay fans but they're never mentioned because of the media's liberal bias. ▼

Thrive

◀ previous page

with the disease. Those meetings can be pretty intense, he said. The group also hosts activities such as hiking, massage projects, and heart circles.

Thriving meets the first and third Saturdays of each month, from 1-3 p.m. at the LGBT Community Center, 1800 Market Street. Meetings are held on the first floor. All HIV-positive men are invited to participate. To join Thriving or to receive e-mails from the group, send a blank e-mail to thriving-subscribe@yahoogroups.com. ▼



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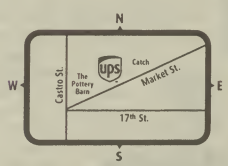
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Where's Arnold?

Editorial

Action movie star Arnold Schwarzenegger's entrance last week into the October 7 gubernatorial recall election was a political shock wave that, by most accounts, surprised just about everyone. But it's been just over a week in a highly compacted campaign and we have yet to hear Schwarzenegger's views on any of the issues facing California, including his stance on gay rights. Schwarzenegger has become the instant front-runner in the recall race and so must be taken seriously. While it has been reported widely that he is a moderate Republican, he has been running a campaign that, so far, has consisted of making the rounds of morning television shows. Of course, Schwarzenegger announced his intention to replace embattled Democratic Governor Gray Davis on *The Tonight Show*, so we're not surprised by his early moves.

Since he has never held elective office before, Schwarzenegger has no legislative record, and his political endeavors have been limited primarily to his sponsorship and support of a ballot measure creating after school programs for kids. While the measure passed last year, it significantly did not contain a plan to fund the programs it sought to establish. With the state's still-dire budget mess, Schwarzenegger's initiative seems more like an empty feel-good measure rather than substantive change for California's school children.

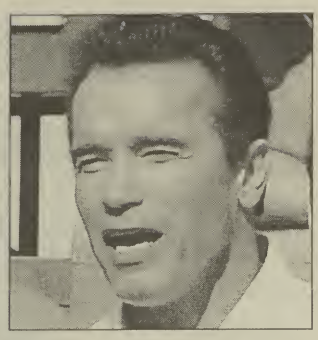
There are details about Schwarzenegger's political life that have emerged since he announced his candidacy, and for the most part, they are troublesome. Even more problematic is the fact that Schwarzenegger has refrained from defending several aspects of his political past:

• Schwarzenegger voted for Proposition 187, which would have denied government services to illegal immigrants in California. The initiative was approved by voters but thrown out by the courts. Last week during his campaign announcement, Schwarzenegger made much of the fact that he arrived in this country decades ago as a near-penniless immigrant from Austria; now it comes to light that he voted for a law that would have hurt other immigrants. Immigration remains a politically explosive issue for the state's Latino voters, many of whom still dislike former Governor Pete Wilson, who championed Proposition 187. Does Schwarzenegger feel that it's acceptable to target immigrants by divisive ballot measures? We don't know, because the actor won't say. Interestingly, Schwarzenegger's campaign is stacked with former aides to Wilson, and the ex-governor himself is a campaign co-chairman. Those developments bother us.

• Schwarzenegger failed to vote in five of the past 11 statewide elections, according to a report this week in the *San Francisco Chronicle*. Aides have reportedly said that he had requested and apparently received absentee ballots on four of those occasions; they are investigating the matter. Someone who aspires to the highest office in the state should have a consistent and regular voting history.

But it's Schwarzenegger's refusal (so far) to engage in a substantive discussion of issues that is beginning to wear thin. He can't go around quoting his memorable movie lines ("I'll be back," and "Hasta la vista, baby") from now until October 7. While his entry into the recall race may galvanize some voters, we think Californians are far smarter than to be lulled to the polls by a Hollywood heavyweight who offers no clear plan for running the state.

Then there is the gay rights matter. We know Davis has supported the LGBT community. He signed the law creating the statewide domestic partner registry a few years ago and signed a bill expanding those rights. Right now, AB205, which would greatly expand domestic partner rights for registered couples, is making its way through the state Senate and is likely to pass, meaning Davis could sign that bill before the recall. Earlier this month he signed a gender nondiscrimination law that includes gender identity protections, a marked departure from previous years when the governor has vetoed similar legislation.



Arnold Schwarzenegger

We don't know what a Governor Schwarzenegger would do with legislation that grants gays and lesbians equal rights. He made one published comment about gays in an old *Cosmopolitan* interview in which he said, "I have no sexual standards in my head that say 'this is good' or 'this is bad.' 'Homosexual' – that only means to me that he enjoys sex with a man and I enjoy sex with a woman. It's all legitimate to me."

We need more than that from a governor. We need to know that if Schwarzenegger is a serious candidate, that he won't be drawn in to the conservative wing of the state Republican Party, known for its blatant gay-baiting and homophobia. We need a governor who realizes that gays and lesbians deserve equal rights. The gay marriage issue has been boiling all summer, and the religious right is resorting increasingly to fear in its attacks on us. With his star power, Schwarzenegger could help put an end to such virulent attacks on our community. He could raise the debate to a more respectful level; and, if he is truly gay-friendly and independent of partisan mudslinging, that could go a long way. ▼

At the crossroads

Guest Opinion

by Enrique Asis, Michael Goldstein, Robert Haaland, Christina Olague, Howard Wallace, and Peter Wong

During the 1970s, Harvey Milk ran for office three times. People inside and outside of the gay and lesbian community told him that he could not win.political office running as a openly gay man. The gay and lesbian political clubs even endorsed straight candidates over him, arguing that these candidates would be our allies and would more successfully push for our rights than we could ourselves. In 1977, Harvey Milk and his supporters formed the San Francisco Gay Democratic Club which would be the first gay Democratic club with gay in its name and the first to endorse a gay candidate for elected office. To our great fortune, Harvey was right and finally he won election in 1978. An "avowed homosexual" can be elected to office in San Francisco.

In 1978, Harvey Milk, along with Mayor George Moscone, was assassinated by former Supervisor Dan White. That year, the SF Gay Democratic Club was re-named to become the Harvey Milk Democratic club in honor of Harvey. Twenty-five years later there are still some who argue that we can't elect an LGBT person as mayor. Some have even gone so far as to say it may be too soon. Others argue that we have advanced so far in our cause that it doesn't matter anymore if we elect an LGBT mayor.

In our opinion, it is more important that ever to elect an LGBT mayor.

President Bush's proposed ban on gay marriage is yet another grim reminder that homophobia is as potent a threat as ever. While the dramatic Supreme Court ruling *Lawrence and Garner v. Texas* affirmed the civil rights of LGBT folk, it also poured rocket fuel on the national movement to put gays back into the closet. The backlash is led by the same ultra-homophobic conservatives who have also captured the federal government and appear to be steering the nation to disaster. The future of our country is uncertain and some of the possibilities are truly frightening.

In contrast, the progress of gays and lesbians in San Francisco's city government has been so dramatic that there are moments when we take for granted the election of LGBT candidates. The progress is such that some in our community may now feel that even the election of an LGBT mayor is no longer a priority. They could not be more wrong.

Now, more than ever, we need as many fearless voices for the LGBT community as we can muster. The office of mayor in San Francisco is one of the nation's bully pulpits, and we need a mayor who will challenge the hatred spewed forth by the leaders of Republican Party, a mayor who can call out the hypocrisy of our national leaders. We need a mayor who has the intelligence, the experience, and the passion of a champion. We need an LGBT mayor.

In this light, the members of the club are particularly proud that the Harvey Milk LGBT Democratic Club has recognized the importance of the upcoming election and has strongly endorsed Tom Ammiano as the best choice for mayor. This election presents us with very clear choices. And, alone among the candidates, Tom stands out as the champion the community needs. From his early days when he fought to come out of the closet as a public school teacher to his victory in securing San Francisco's landmark domestic partners law to his recent battles against police corruption and homophobia, over and over again the members expressed that they think Tom Ammiano is a battle tested veteran with the record of a winner.

The city charter for San Francisco mandates that this year's election for mayor be held using the instant runoff format which calls upon voters to list their first, second, and third choice for mayor. In the spirit of promoting instant runoff voting, the Harvey Milk Club also considered all the candidates for selection as the club's number two choice for mayor, and the club has endorsed Susan Leal as our second choice for mayor. Susan Leal, the city's treasurer, is a strong and consistent supporter of the LGBT community and has worked for several years as an out lesbian elected official.

The club also closely considered other candidacies for endorsement as our third choice for mayor. And while the members recognized that these candidates have been at times friendly to the LGBT community, they stated during discussions that these other candidates could not serve as the champion we sorely need. In the past, there were times when these candidates were missing in action or actively opposed the interests of our community. The Harvey Milk club offers no endorsement of any candidate as the third choice for mayor.

San Francisco has always been at the center of the national fight for LGBT rights, and the next mayor of San Francisco will have a critically important opportunity to help lead the fight. The direction of the whole nation is bitterly contested, and the fate of our community may well rest in how that contest is decided. Right now, we need nothing less than a champion for mayor. ▼

The writers are on the executive board of the Harvey Milk LGBT Democratic Club.

LETTERS



Halloween promotion short-sighted

What are these corporate queens thinking about? We shouldn't be promoting this party via Viacom, Clear Channel, KRON, or Comcast *["Halloween street party goes corporate," August 7]*. This will only bring in more people, more violence and more noise. Our main focus should be on keeping people safe, not defraying costs of live entertainment by corporatizing our Halloween festival.

I am happy to see that this will be advertised as a "dry event," but what it comes down to is that people will drink before, or bring their own booze with them, get rowdy, start fights, etc.

The violence is caused, in part, by allowing too many people crammed into a small section, as in the Castro District. Think about it, there are laws on the books requiring a specific amount of people to be allowed in all establishments within the city. Shouldn't this also apply to the number of people attending the Halloween festivities?

Where was the issue about how to deal with the violence, besides the tiny blurb, "Dufty pledged to rein in the violence and mayhem as part of his campaign"? What is he actually doing to curb the violence?

As for the stage settings, I live right on the corner of Castro and 19th on the residential side, where one of the stages will be set up. Even though Halloween will be on a Friday night this year, my partner and I both have to be up early. I take early classes at City College and he is a counselor at a high school. Where is the respect for those of us who have hours to keep?

I have few suggestions. Move the stage further down Castro in the business section away from the residential side of 19th and Castro, and in future years when Halloween falls during the weekday, the celebration should be moved to the Friday or Saturday, either before or after that weekday. This way more people can enjoy it, including my partner and I.

Since Halloween has become too large and violent for the Castro, it should be moved to a bigger space. Dufty could do a power talk with the big guns, Viacom, Clear Channel, KRON, and Comcast and use their advertising muscle and have Halloween down at the Civic Center or even the Embarcadero plaza. Of course the Castro would remain open to the traffic, and we, the residents, could rest without the loud noise during the week.

Steven D. Keller
San Francisco

Democrat for the recall

I'm a Democrat in favor of recalling Gray Davis.

I remember very well how he betrayed his gay and lesbian electorate in his first year in office by vetoing the domestic partner bill passed by the legislature, saying it went too far.

I also remember his statement that the Legislature serves to enact his agenda and not their own, because he was elected by voters statewide rather than by one district only.

Now that the governor has shown his true colors, we have the opportunity to correct our error in electing him (yes, I voted for him). I'd prefer a Democrat, but I think even a Republican would be preferable to an arrogant turncoat.

Michael Foster
Oakland, California

Be careful of what you wish for ...

The Recallist Faction is getting its wish – chaos and confusion. The upcoming sequel to the recent gubernatorial election isn't a "recall" as it is a "return" to failed government policies. It reminds us that failed politicians never die, they just keep trying to steal elections. Their objective is to distract everyone's attention from the economic damage caused by the national recession.

Political damage is also important to them. Not only is the Recallist Faction promoting a coup d'état, but they are disenfranchising those who voted for Governor Davis. James Madison, author of the *Federalist Papers*, warned against "factions" as "a minority of citizens who are united by common impulse of passion, or of interest, adverse to the rights of other citizens." The public interest is being thwarted by the recallists, who are: ultraradical conservatives, air pollution junkies, civic responsibility abusers, and "homeless" political flaks.

In these times, if you don't think you're going to like the answer to a question, don't ask the question. To the question about whether Governor Davis should be replaced, the answer is no, because the alternatives are either worse or unknown. Defend democracy or watch it evolve into chaos.

Paul Page
San Francisco

Overcharging in harass case?

What's up with our district attorney, Terence Hallinan? The *Bay Area Reporter*'s account on August 7 ("Petrelis and Pasquarelli settle harass case") gives yet another instance of apparent overcharging by the D.A.: charging people with violations way in excess of what the D.A. is willing to try to establish and then taking almost two years (November 2001 to this July) to get a mild plea-bargain.

Maybe the charges should not have been brought in the first place against these two for simply voicing strenuously their concerns on public policy on STDs. This smacks of the practices in undemocratic countries where police power is used to stifle dissent.

Two questions:

1. Who is the real harasser here?
2. Maybe we need a new DA?

I look forward to voting Hallinan out of office in November.

Richard Cornwall
San Francisco

Dog guardian deserved reprimand

The report of the crime committed in front of the Bombay restaurant on June 28 was lacking balance *[Crime and Punishment, July 3]*. The heading read "Teamwork" and goes on to describe a woman "visibly upset and crying" over the fact that her "pure bred chocolate Labrador retriever" was not tied outside the restaurant where she was eating for 45 minutes.

Personally, if I witnessed a dog, any dog, regardless of breed, tied to a post for 45 minutes while thousands of people celebrated in the street, I would have taken the dog myself. The difference between me and the person who was eventually arrested is the fact that I would have taken the dog to the humane society and reported it as an abused animal.

Each year at every festival we have in San Francisco, there are those heartless idiots who wish to parade their dogs in public for whatever twisted reason they need to fulfill. To me, this crime falls second in line behind public drunken behavior where violence occurs. Unfortunately, not many people speak up for the poor dogs that are staring at legs and feet that are stepping on them, spilling drinks, having their tender paws burned by the hot asphalt, and a number of other shocks to their systems. Sadly, it is not "fun" for the dogs in these crowded conditions, no matter what their guardians wish to believe.

As a loving caregiver of two wonderful dogs, I show my compassion for their well-being by leaving them at home when I want to venture out and party in the streets with thousands of city dwellers. I do not drag them out for public display and possible physical abuse by strangers.

All I can say is that it was a good thing I did not witness the woman crying in the street over someone stealing her dog, because I would have grabbed her by the shoulders and told her she needed to be slapped – hard! (Okay, so this is a bit dramatic, but I get this way every time a parade or street fair occurs and I see these poor animals looking around in notable stress.)

As much as I appreciate the reporting of crimes that occur in our community, I did not appreciate the glowing ending to the piece. I would have rather read that the police officers doing an incredible job gave that woman a good tongue lashing for leaving her dog tied to the post for 45 minutes. It may have been a happy reunion for the woman who had her dog stolen, but who is to say that dog would not have received a better home in the end.

Mike Hughes
San Francisco

Center's windows need opening

While Thom Lynch "is opening the doors to the LGBT Community Center" *["Lynch 'reopens' the center's doors," July 24]* he should also open up the windows. The center's bleak facade greets passersby with a blank glass wall backed by sterile white panels. Even the windows of the restored Fallon Victorian are covered by drawn shades. There's no color, no sign of life, nothing to draw the interest of pedestrians on the city's main drag. No wonder it's been greeted with a collective yawn.

If Lynch is right about "renewed excitement about the center," it's certainly not evident from the street. He needs to run down to Macy's and recruit some volunteer window-dressers to rainbow-up the place with community symbols, posters for events and nonprofit resources, loaned displays from the LGBT Historical Society, anything to bring the center's depressing face to life.

Denis Wade
San Francisco

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Why I don't care about Dick Gephardt's lesbian daughter

by Paula Martinac

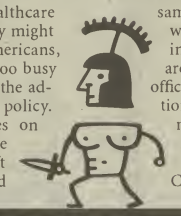
Let's face it: The national Democratic Party is a mess. The glut of presidential candidates – many seemingly indistinguishable from each other and a couple who might as well be Republican – has a lot of us feeling angry, frustrated, and politically voiceless. We also seem to be grasping at proverbial straws, like the often-slight differences the nine Democrats show on this or that gay issue. Disgruntled lesbian and gay progressives should refuse to be pacified by the candidates' checklists of support on our issues and instead push for change within the party so that it has a chance to win.

Frankly, I find all the reports in the press about where the presidential candidates stand on the hot-button topic of same-sex marriage tiresome – and a bit insulting. It's as if lesbians and gay men can't possibly care about anything except the specific interests of our community. We seem to be so caught up in the desire to walk down the aisle that we're ignoring other important aspects of the candidates' platforms.

For example, you undoubtedly know that Howard Dean signed Vermont's historic civil unions bill, but you probably don't know that he supports gun rights and the death penalty, issues of great concern to many progressives. I bet you've also heard that Dick Gephardt has a lesbian daughter; but you might not know that he has a detailed plan for universal health care, one he argues will help boost the economy.

Of course, the fact that many Americans, gay and straight, don't know the Democrats' positions on such important domestic issues has a lot to do with what the media chooses to cover. Much of what we read and hear about the candidates is how many millions of campaign dollars they've been able to rake in. Indeed, fundraising appears to be a primary qualification for the country's top job – almost as if the candidates are applying to be a not-for-profit development director, not the head of state of the most powerful nation in the world.

But there's also the question of what the candidates choose to stress about themselves when given a national platform. I guess Gephardt hasn't had time to advocate for his healthcare plan, which actually might appeal to many Americans, because he's been too busy blasting Bush over the administration's Iraq policy. Gripping headlines on Gephardt's Web site read "Bush Has Left Us Unsafe" and "Gephardt Attacks Bush Foreign Policy as 'Machismo.'" In fact, I agree with both of those positions. But since the congressman voted for the war in the first place, his emphasis on its failure simply makes him look to the public like a political opportunist without any ideas.



Amazingly, even after the devastating 2002 midterm elections and the Democratic leadership's promise to learn from the mistakes made then, the national party has not figured out that obscuring traditional Democratic positions on issues like the economy and health care is a losing strategy. Indeed, it's an approach that has either confused or alienated a large number of potential voters, who probably don't see a reason to switch from Bush to someone pretty much like him. Interestingly, the Republicans' recent position on prescription drugs seems to suggest that embracing Democratic issues may, in fact, be a *winning* strategy.

Among the many things at stake in the 2004 election is the appointment of federal judges and Supreme Court justices who have been so crucial to the struggle for gay rights. But there are also a host of nongay reasons to care about what happens, like the lasting damage that may be done to the working and middle classes if the Republicans continue pursuing their agenda of economic "reform."

Concerned lesbian and gay progressives should be making clear to the party that our concerns aren't just with issues like same-sex marriage, but also with the Democrats' seemingly aimless path. There are a number of openly gay officials at the Democratic National Committee (www.democrats.org) – Treasurer Andrew Tobias, Gay and Lesbian Leadership Council Director Lila Gracey, and Gay and Lesbian Outreach Director Eric J. Stern – who should be hearing that we want (and will financially support) a candidate who's not afraid to run openly as a traditional Democrat.

And we need to get over our anger with the Democrats and become pro-active – participating in local party precincts, where much of the nitty-gritty work takes place, and aspiring to become delegates to the national convention. We can also take an active part in the Stonewall Democrats (www.stonewalldemocrats.org), the national organization of gay party members with chapters around the country, and press for the group to pay as much attention to party reform as they do to the word "Stonewall" in their name. ▼

Paula Martinac is a Lambda Literary Award-winning author of seven books and editor in chief of Q Syndicate. She can be reached care of this publication or at PMcolumn@aol.com.

North American bisexual confab this month in San Diego

by Liz Highleyman

This year's North American Conference on Bisexuality will take place August 21-24 in San Diego.

"This conference will be the largest gathering of people interested in bisexuality in the world this year," said NACB co-chair Richard Woulfe. "It will bring together over 700 people for four days of stimulating and thought-provoking workshops, panel discussions, live entertainment, and social activities."

The conference, to be held at San Diego's Radisson Hotel, will kick off Thursday, August 21, with four pre-conference institutes: exploring erotic touch, organizing institutes for bisexual youth and people of color, and the Bisexual Health Summit, an outgrowth of last year's Boulder LGBTI Health Summit. The following three days will be filled with a plethora of workshops, panels, and plenary presentations.

Plenary speakers will include San Francisco sexologist Dr. Carol Queen, television love and sex advice expert Dr. Ava Cadell, Congresswoman Susan Davis (D-San Diego), Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation Executive Director Joan Garry, transgender activist Gina Lance, International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission advisory board member Gloria Careage Perez, bi activists Robyn Ochs and Colin Upright, and Dr. Martin Weinberg, author of *Dual Attraction.*

The conference will feature nearly 70 workshops and panel discussions covering topic areas such as activism, health, gender issues, research, relationships and family, arts and culture, sex, and spirituality.

Entertainers will include bisexual singer-songwriter Skott Freedman (winner of this year's Stonewall Society Pride in the Arts Award), comedian Rob Yaeger, and musicians Magdalen Hsu-Li and Nicole Kristal. The conference will also include an art exhibit, a poolside barbecue, and a dance.

"I am excited by the extraordinary workshop line-up that is coming together for this years conference," said NACB program coordinator Alexei Guren. "More than anything, this is going to be a fun event and a great opportunity for bisexuals, bi-curious people, and their lesbian, gay, and straight friends and allies to gather and build community."

Conference registration is $85, with additional fees for some events such as the barbecue. For more information, visit www.bisexual.org/nacb. ▼

CA Demos rally around Cruz Bustamante

by Wayne Friday

The California Democratic Party's "**Gray Davis** or bust" strategy on the recall went out the window last week with the entry of Lieutenant Governor **Cruz Bustamante**, who quickly became the party's backup candidate in the event – as early polls indicate – California voters decide to dump the embattled Governor Davis on October 7.



Rick Gerharter

Lt. Governor Cruz Bustamante

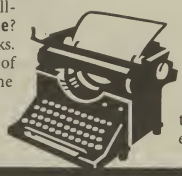
While California Democratic Party leaders still view this entire recall effort as a Republican-driven plot to take over a governor's seat they couldn't win only nine months ago, they will urge a no vote on the recall, but see Bustamante as the best candidate on the ticket in the event Davis doesn't survive the first part of the ballot.

Prominent Democratic Party leaders, reportedly led by U.S. Senator **Dianne Feinstein** (California) and House Minority Leader **Nancy Pelosi** (D-San Francisco), urged other Democratic contenders to either stay out or drop out of the race, so state Insurance Commissioner **John Garamendi** apparently succumbed to party pressure and withdrew only hours before the Saturday filing deadline, leaving the Democrats with only one major candidate – Bustamante – as their backup in the hopes of keeping control of the Statehouse.

Garamendi, though a well-known name, clearly did not fit the candidate the Democrats needed most with a solid constituency who would campaign against the recall but still have a strong political base in the event Davis is recalled. Bustamante and his Latino following seem to meet that criteria.

Once Feinstein opened up the political floodgates by taking herself out of the race, Democrats needed to quickly find a consensus candidate, since under state law Davis's name cannot appear on the ballot, and Bustamante seemed to fit the bill. Bustamante, who said he called Davis beforehand and informed him of his decision to run, said that Davis replied that, "These are unconventional times and I hope you generate a tremendous number of folks to come out to the polls." Bustamante reportedly assured Davis that the slogan of his short campaign would be "Vote 'No' on the recall; 'Yes' on Bustamante." A spokesperson for the Davis camp told reporters that the Davis campaign does indeed feel that another Democratic candidate such as Bustamante might bring people to the polls, and the Davis people are obviously hoping these people will vote no on the recall.

Meanwhile, as Secretary of State **Kevin Shelley**'s office scrambled this week to certify nearly 200 gubernatorial candidates, the political circus that seemingly could happen only in California is on, and a three-ring one it is. Political theater at its weirdest. Does **Arnold Schwarzenegger** really think he can get through the next 55 days repeating one-liners like "Hasta la vista, baby"? Does anyone really want to listen to a debate (spare us) between **Arianna Huffington** and Arnold? Will **Jesse Ventura** come to California to campaign for **Larry Flynt** or billboard pinup **Angelyne**? Better get used to it, folks. This is California, land of the recall, home of he crazy, and the state that practices its politics with a loose screw.



Our Man Friday

One thing is for sure, this recall election will reshape the national political landscape for 2004. If the polls continue to show doom for Davis, a new governor will be in place in Sacramento within three months. Republicans feel that Schwarzenegger, whether he wins or not, will lure new voters to their party, increasing the odds that President **George W. Bush** can carry the state next year. This unprecedented campaign could also cause blocs of voters to shift their loyalties from one party to another. California has 55 Electoral College votes, 20 percent of the 270 needed to win the presidency. In 2000, Bush lost the state to Democrat **Al Gore**, 54 percent to 42 percent.

Naturally, the white House and the Bush re-election campaign insist they are not at all involved in this recall election. Say what? This entire thing – from Representative **Darrell Issa**'s (R-Vista) writing the $2 million check to force this election right down to his pitifully tearful withdrawal from the race – was orchestrated by **Karl Rove** and his White House operatives.

There is no question that strategists in both major parties are already looking beyond the October 7 vote to measure its effect on the 2004 presidential race. California Republicans have a gaggle of candidates in this election – Schwarzenegger, **Bill Simon**, state Senator **Tom McClintock** (R-Thousand Oaks), former baseball commissioner **Peter Ueberroth**, etc. For the Democrats to emerge victorious on October 7 it will have to be: No on the recall, yes on Bustamante, because frankly, I see no way Davis can survive this thing on his own.

Politics and people

Hey, there is a race for mayor of San Francisco this year, remember? Last Friday's filing deadline gave us **Tom Ammiano**, **Gavin Newsom**, **Tony Ribera**, **Susan Leal**, **Angela Alioto**, **Matt Gonzalez**, and a pack of wannabes (can you say **Jim Reid**?). Matt Gonzalez? Yep, the brainy Board of Supervisors president stepped in at the last minute, no doubt causing Ammiano and Alioto to reach for the aspirin bottle. You see, rumor has it that somehow Ammiano might pull out, support Gonzalez, and then he (Ammiano) would get appointed to head the San Francisco school system (but wait a minute, what about one **Arlene Ackerman**?). I think if Ammiano doesn't win the mayor's race he runs again for another term on the Board of Supervisors representing District 9 before returning to his true passion – teaching, but not surprisingly, he doesn't return my phone calls so I couldn't check out this one.

In the mayor's race, the early money is still on Newsom to win this one (hey, the guy has more house signs in the Castro than Ammiano and Leal combined) but with this idiotic recall coming before the mayoral election, little attention is likely to be paid to the local election for awhile, and anything could happen in the December runoff.

Then there's the hotly contested district attorney contest where incumbent **Terence Hallinan** is fighting off strong challenges from **Kamala Harris** and **Bill Fazio**, both imminently better qualified for the job than is Hallinan. Harris is the bright new candidate in the race and would make a really good district attorney for San Francisco.

District 8 Supervisor **Bevan Dufty** will hold a hearing on HIV prevention Thursday, August 21 from 4-6 p.m. in City Hall Room 263. Dufty said the purpose of the meeting is to focus on preventing HIV among people under 30. Interested community members are welcome to attend.

Incidentally, the S.F. Republican Party has officially endorsed former Police Chief Tony Ribera for mayor, but has yet to endorse in the D.A. contest.

Look for Arianna Huffington to get many of her votes on October 7 by siphoning them from Green Party candidate **Peter Camejo**.

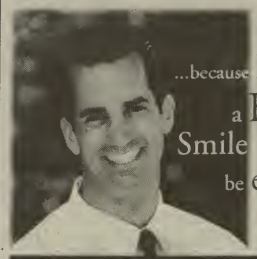
And, yes, I've already been sent that nude frontal photo of Ahnold that is flooding the Internet (get used to it, Arnold).

The Alice B. Toklas LGBT Democratic Club and the Harvey Milk LGBT Democratic Club are holding a joint reception for U.S. Senator **Barbara Boxer** (D-California) to help in her re-election bid on Saturday, August 23, 2-3:30 p.m., at the San Francisco LGBT Community Center, 1800 Market Street ($100 donation suggested; 415-296-5210 for info).

The *Sacramento Bee* reports that during Vice President **Dick Cheney**'s recent quiet trip to the capital city he had an enormous medical team traveling with him. "They had more medical staff than security," one Sacramento cop said, adding that "we had to cover every possible route to the Med Center; they worry more about a heart attack than a terrorist attack."

My "Quote of the Week" has to come from the Terminator, Arnold himself, announcing on *The Tonight Show* that he was a candidate for governor: "This decision was the most difficult since deciding to get a bikini wax in 1978." Duh.

And how was your week? ▼



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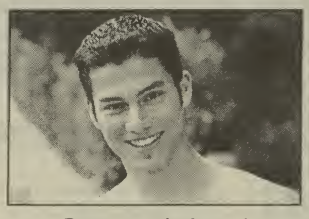
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Schwarzenegger

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governor for "all Californians."

Bissiri said that Log Cabin Republican officials look forward to meeting with Schwarzenegger's campaign. He also pointed out that the actor is "political bedfellows" with former Los Angeles Mayor Richard Riordan, who is a moderate.

Geoff Kors, executive director of Equality California, a statewide LGBT lobbying group, told the *B.A.R.* that the organization's executive board is expected to meet this weekend to discuss the recall. Equality California officially came out against the recall last month, as did the Human Rights Campaign, and the Elections Committee of the County of Orange, an LGBT political group in Southern California.

Kors pointed out that so far, Schwarzenegger hasn't talked about his plans for governing the largest state in the union.

"I think a lot of people are waiting to see what he says about the issues," Kors said. "He was asked about same-sex marriage and refused to answer."

Kors and Mark Mead, spokesman for the national Log Cabin Republicans, both said they want to know whether Schwarzenegger is supportive of the three remaining LGBT bills in the Legislature.

Davis recently signed a gender nondiscrimination bill but the other LGBT bills are at various stages in the legislative process.

Mead added that an interesting aspect of the recall is how right-wing homophobe the Reverend Lou Sheldon, head of the Traditional Values Coalition, quickly denounced Schwarzenegger as not conservative enough.

"The right wing is clearly in a panic mode," Mead said.

Conservative Republicans who have qualified for the recall include Bill Simon, who lost to Davis last November, and state Senator Tom McClintock, who received the endorsement of the California Republican Assembly.

"That's a blow to Simon," Bissiri said of CRA's endorsement.

As for Davis, an openly gay aide told the *B.A.R.* last week that the governor is working to bring people together around the issues of gay and lesbian inclusion. ▼

Cops stabbed

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chest. Correa was then stabbed a second time; she fired her pistol twice but missed her assailant.

Deputy Chief Mindy Pengel, the department's highest ranking gay or lesbian officer, told the *B.A.R.* Tuesday afternoon that both Militello and Correa were "doing very well."

"They did a brilliant job," Pengel said. "They got help, they kept people back – they really responded well under life-threatening circumstances."

Pengel said that Militello got on her cell phone to call for help after being stabbed. She credited the quick response of police and paramedics and the trauma unit at SFGH in providing medical help to the officers.

Community members were quick to offer support to the officers.

"Lea Militello and Pat Correa have been in the front lines of the SFPD for all the years I've known them," said community organizer Edward Goehring. "Through efforts like the Pride Alliance, they've been leaders in making the San Francisco Police Department more diverse, more reflective of the communities it serves. As police officers, they've been leaders in showing that LGBT officers can ably fulfill any function in the police department. They've also done a great deal to create bridges between the SFPD and citizens who 'traditionally' mistrust cops.

"I'm extremely happy that Lea and Pat survived their trip to Daly City – so often we only think about people's contributions after they're gone. Instead, this time we can thank these two dedicated inspectors personally. And they deserve one hell of a thank-you from all San Franciscans for their community efforts, for their police work, for putting their lives on the line to serve and protect us," Goehring added. ▼

Gay Catholics

◀ page 4

that the church has marginalized our relationships as having less value than other relationships," said Shellooe, 43, a pharmacist. "This is a way to honor couples who are in long-term relationships, to bless and support them."

The event capped a cathartic four-day conference for about 300 members of DignityUSA, the national gay and lesbian Catholic organization that has found itself at the center of a series of major controversies in the two years since the last gathering.

From the priest sex-abuse scandals of 2002 that the Vatican has partly blamed on the existence of gay clerics to Rome's antigay marriage pronouncements last month, these have been such beleaguering times that even DignityUSA's executive director says she struggled with whether to stay in the faith.

"It's been the first time in my life I have seriously asked the questions, 'Could I remain a Catholic? Can we make it a church I want to raise my daughter in?'" said Marianne Duddy, 42, of Boston, who stepped down as Dignity's executive director on Monday to focus on raising her child. "But I don't want to be forced out, I don't want to be driven out. It is a faith that has been handed down to me through the generations. I don't know how I could ever get away from that."

Duddy's despair reflects that of many gay Catholics across the nation. Andrew Sullivan, the neoconservative author and Internet diarist, has spent recent weeks chronicling his own torment over whether to remain a Catholic amid the Vatican pronouncements.

"This debate is not an abstract one for me or for many others," Sullivan wrote on his Web site last week. "Our very integrity as human beings and equality as citizens is being weighed in the balance by others with enormous power over us. ... It's hard to describe the agony gay Catholics are now in; and I'm facing a pretty major life-decision."

Rome issued a 12-page edict on July 31 titled "Considerations Regarding Proposals to Give Legal Recognition to Unions Between Homosexual Persons," that attacked the growing worldwide movement toward legalizing same-sex marriage and warned Catholic politicians around the world that supporting legislation that recognizes gay couples would be "gravely immoral."

Ire over that document seeped into several proceedings at the Las Vegas conference. In his opening remarks last Thursday evening, DignityUSA President Patrick McArron of San Diego railed against the "elite old-boy's club" in Rome who had committed acts of "spiritual terrorism" against homosexuals and others. McArron then tried to turn to a positive note by insisting that "tonight is not about anger, it's about celebration," but then quickly resumed his fighting tone.

"We have much to celebrate in the face of this adversity," McArron, 56, told the audience. "We have each other to love and, by God, we have as much right as anyone else to express that love for each other emotionally and spiritually. In fact, we have a right to all seven sacraments."

The organization echoed this in a new position paper written last weekend that rejects the Vatican statement and concludes: "The love that brings and binds two people of the same, or opposite, sex together has a divine source. It is therefore sacramental in nature and should be celebrated as such by our Church."

Still, many in attendance are bracing for the backlash against gay rights strides predicted by National Gay and Lesbian Task Force Executive Director Matt Foreman in a luncheon speech on Saturday. Foreman expressed fear that the recent U.S. Supreme Court decision decriminalizing sodomy and the raging gay marriage debate is enraging antigay forces, as proved by the Vatican statement.

"We've had this extraordinary, unprecedented, and in my mind, terrifying, confluence of events in the past nine weeks something of the likes our community has never seen," Foreman said. "We all have to admit we're at a time of crisis and peril."

While the controversies have disheartened many, they also helped DignityUSA grow in a burst. Membership is up to about 3,000 people from 2,400 at the start of 2002, a 25 percent increase in 19 months that Duddy attributes to frequent national media appearances by herself to discuss and counter claims from Rome that the sex-abuse scandals provided evidence of the dangers of homosexuality.

The same-sex couple blessing isn't the only portion of the weekend program bound to raise the ire of Catholic traditionalists. A full Mass was said on Saturday by the Reverend John Crepeau, an ordained priest from San Diego who has been on leave for 10 years. The Catholic Church prohibits Masses said for groups it does not recognize; DignityUSA has been prohibited by papal edict from recognition since 1986. The San Jose chapter uses Chapel of St. Martin of Tours Church in San Jose and the San Francisco chapter uses the Seventh Avenue Presbyterian Church in San Francisco for their weekly liturgies.

Despite the problems, attendees insisted the church laity are starting to see that the hierarchy is wrong on homosexuality. Plus, not everything the church does is offensive, said Mike Cook, 51, of Skokie, Illinois.

"There are some things that come from the church I do agree with, including its opposition to the war in Iraq and to the death penalty," said Cook, who works as a hospital bookkeeper. "It's important not to leave. If I leave, they win." ▼

Steve Friess (www.stevefriess.com) is a freelance writer in Las Vegas.

Late night snack

by Jane Warner

7-Eleven, 3998 18th Street, August 8, 3:35 a.m.: While loading cans of soda in the refrigerator cooler, the clerk heard the bell sound, indicating that someone had entered the store. When he stepped out to see who it was, he saw a man in front of him, pointing a gun at his head. "The money, the money!" the suspect demanded, and motioned toward the cash register. As the clerk rounded the corner, he saw a second suspect standing by the front doors acting as a lookout. With a gun pointed at his back, the clerk opened the register, took out the money, and placed it on top of the counter. While the suspect was busy gathering the cash, the clerk managed to press the silent alarm button. The suspect saw the clerk do this, and became angry, screaming, "Get on the ground, get on the ground," while pointing the gun at the clerk's head. Fearing for his life, the clerk complied, and the suspects fled with about $300 in cash. The gunman is described as an Hispanic male, in his early 20s, 5 feet 8 inches tall, 145 pounds, wearing a black baseball cap with a white logo, a black jacket, black pants, and black shoes. The second suspect is also Hispanic, 21-22 years old, 5 feet 2 inches, 125 pounds, wearing a black beanie, plaid jacket with gray sleeves, black pants, and black shoes.

Crime & Punishment

Town crier

Church and Market Muni, August 8, 5:15 p.m.: Witnesses called police after seeing a man pepper spray another man for no apparent reason on the underground Muni at Church and Market. As police responded to the scene, a witness on his cell phone directed officers to the suspect, who was standing on the corner of 17th Street. Officers quickly detained the man and confiscated the cans of pepper spray from his possession. The suspect admitted to spraying the victim but said it was in self defense. He explained he had boarded a train at Stonestown and that a strange man sat next to him, "checking me out and coming onto me." When the train entered the tunnel, he said, the stranger touched his arm in an inappropriate manner, and fearing for his safety, the suspect pepper sprayed him when they reached Church and Market. Officers searched the area for the victim, but could not find him. A Muni agent said that he encountered the victim, whose eyes were red and swollen. Fearing he was the victim of a crime, the Muni agent got the man's name and telephone number. When officers called the number, however, a man answered and curtly stated, "You've got the wrong number." Without a victim, the police released the suspect.

Treasure trail

16th and Sanchez, August 9, 2:25 a.m.: Police were flagged down by a man who reported that he and his friend were just robbed. The victim told officers his friend ran from the scene, and he wasn't sure where he had gone. Officers used the man's cell phone to call the friend, who was at home and reportedly okay. The victim told officers the pair had been walking southbound on Sanchez when a group of five young men started to follow them. Fearful, they crossed the street. When the victim saw the group cross behind them, he looked at his friend and told him, "Run." The group of men ran after them and one of the suspects caught up to the pair, hitting the victim on the back of the head with a large object that caused him to fall to the pavement. The assailants rummaged through his pockets, taking his cell phone and kicking him in the back of neck and once in the rib cage. The robbers – described as Hispanic males between the ages of 15 and 20 – fled eastbound on Sanchez. One of them was wearing a red and white bandanna. Police searched the area but could not find them. ▼

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Stereotypical merchandise: When does it cross the line?

by Zak Szymanski

Sometimes stereotypical characters are funny. But other times the characters can be downright offensive, which is why, when Bob Nelson encountered the Trash Talkers dolls at the Castro Street store Does Your Father Know, he became concerned.

Trash Talkers are plush dolls dressed in over-the-top clothing to represent their characters: an African American man, an Asian man, an Indian man, a white gay man, a white leather daddy (as sold at Does Your Mother Know on 18th Street), a white trash couch potato, and presumably, a Jewish American princess.

Smack them in the head to hear them talk, and "Mr. Patel," the Indian doll, will exclaim in his accent, "I am needing to have sex with you now," among other phrases. "Pimp Daddy," the African American doll, will scream, "Ooww!!! You got some nice ass titties, bitch!" The Asian "Lee Chan" exclaims, "Ohhhhhh ... me stay hard long time." And "Marshall," the white gay man, will whine, "Heyyy! Not so rough ..."

Nelson, who only encountered the Asian doll, said he found the merchandise extremely offensive.

"The whole idea of promoting stereotypes and having dolls that you have to hit in the head ... is absolutely appalling," said Nelson. "Our community has suffered a tremendous amount as it is from stereotypes and misunderstanding, and to promote this kind of thing as humor is very sad."

Nelson said that he would have been just as offended by the white gay male doll, had he seen it.

But others pointed out that in a neighborhood traditionally welcoming to white gay men, the merchandise could have a greater negative impact on people of color.

The fact that such stereotypical merchandise continues to pervade the gay community comes as no

page <None> ▶


Rick Gerharter

Trash Talkers dolls at Does Your Father Know? in the Castro.

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So, all I have to do is **talk on my phone, I get paid $10 each time!** Yeah, and they only need 1-3 calls per participant. But, by me chatting on the phone to support scientific research **I may have the chance to win $1000!** Wow!



The Linguistic Data Consortium at the University of Pennsylvania (WWW.LDC.UPENN.EDU) needs participants for FISHER, a new telephone speech study. The FISHER project will support linguistic research, technology development and education. FISHER participants will take part in 1 to 3 telephone calls talking for ten minutes to other participants on suggested topics. A robot operator will initiate all calls. Participants need only answer their phones at the times they specify during the registration process.

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Indication: AndroGel is indicated for replacement therapy in males for conditions associated with a deficiency or absence of endogenous testosterone, such as primary hypogonadism or hypogonadotropic hypogonadism.

Safety Information:

- Androgens are contraindicated in men with carcinoma of the breast, or known or suspected carcinoma of the prostate.[3]
- The most frequent adverse events reported by ≥5% of patients associated with the consistent use of AndroGel after 30 months follow-up in a controlled trial (n=93) included lab test abnormal, acne, prostate disorder and application site reaction.[4]

Please see accompanying brief summary of important safety and prescribing information.

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References: 1. Dobs AS. Androgen therapy in AIDS wasting. *Baillieres Clin Endocrinol Metab* 1998;12:379-390. 2. Grinspoon S, Corcoran C, Askari H, et al. Effects of androgen administration in men with the AIDS wasting syndrome. *Ann Intern Med* 1998;129:18-26. 3. AndroGel® Prescribing Information, Solvay Pharmaceuticals, Inc., 2002. 4. Wang C, Swerdloff RS, Iranmanesh A, et al. Long-term efficacy and safety of transdermal testosterone gel (AndroGel®) in hypogonadal men. Poster presentation #P2-646 at the 84th Annual Meeting of the Endocrine Society, June 19-22, 2002, San Francisco, CA.

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"Brief Summary (for full Prescribing Information and Patient Information, refer to package insert.)"

INDICATIONS AND USAGE
AndroGel® is indicated for replacement therapy in males for conditions associated with a deficiency or absence of endogenous testosterone:
1. Primary hypogonadism (congenital or acquired) – testicular failure due to cryptorchidism, bilateral torsion, orchitis, vanishing testis syndrome, orchiectomy, Klinefelter's syndrome, chemotherapy, or toxic damage from alcohol or heavy metals. These men usually have low serum testosterone levels and gonadotropins (FSH, LH) above the normal range.
2. Hypogonadotropic hypogonadism (congenital or acquired) – idiopathic gonadotropin or luteinizing hormone-releasing hormone (LHRH) deficiency or pituitary-hypothalamic injury from tumors, trauma, or radiation. These men have low testosterone serum levels but have gonadotropins in the normal or low range.

AndroGel® has not been clinically evaluated in males under 18 years of age.

CONTRAINDICATIONS
Androgens are contraindicated in men with carcinoma of the breast or known or suspected carcinoma of the prostate. AndroGel® is not indicated for use in women, has not been evaluated in women, and must not be used in women. Pregnant women should avoid skin contact with AndroGel® application sites in men. Testosterone may cause fetal harm. In the event that unwashed or unclothed skin to which AndroGel® has been applied does come in direct contact with the skin of a pregnant woman, the general area of contact on the woman should be washed with soap and water as soon as possible. *In vitro* studies show that residual testosterone is removed from the skin surface by washing with soap and water. AndroGel® should not be used in patients with known hypersensitivity to any of its ingredients, including testosterone USP that is chemically synthesized from soy.

WARNINGS
1. Prolonged use of high doses of orally active 17-alpha-alkyl androgens (e.g., methyltestosterone) has been associated with serious hepatic adverse effects (peliosis hepatis, hepatic neoplasms, cholestatic hepatitis, and jaundice). Peliosis hepatis can be a life-threatening or fatal complication. Long-term therapy with testosterone enanthate, which elevates blood levels for prolonged periods, has produced multiple hepatic adenomas. Testosterone is not known to produce these adverse effects.
2. Geriatric patients treated with androgens may be at an increased risk for the development of prostatic hyperplasia and prostatic carcinoma.
3. Geriatric patients and other patients with clinical or demographic characteristics that are recognized to be associated with an increased risk of prostate cancer should be evaluated for the presence of prostate cancer prior to initiation of testosterone replacement therapy. In men receiving testosterone replacement therapy, surveillance for prostate cancer should be consistent with current practices for eugonadal men (see **PRECAUTIONS**: Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis, Impairment of Fertility and Laboratory Tests).
4. Edema with or without congestive heart failure may be a serious complication in patients with preexisting cardiac, renal, or hepatic disease. In addition to discontinuation of the drug, diuretic therapy may be required.
5. Gynecomastia frequently develops and occasionally persists in patients being treated for hypogonadism.
6. The treatment of hypogonadal men with testosterone esters may potentiate sleep apnea in some patients, especially those with risk factors such as obesity or chronic lung diseases.
7. GELS ARE FLAMMABLE. AVOID FIRE, FLAME OR SMOKING DURING USE.

PRECAUTIONS
Transfer of testosterone to another person can occur when vigorous skin-to-skin contact is made with the application site (see **Clinical Studies**). The following precautions are recommended to minimize potential transfer of testosterone from AndroGel®-treated skin to another person:
- Patients should wash their hands immediately with soap and water after application of AndroGel®.
- Patients should cover the application site(s) with clothing after the gel has dried (e.g. a shirt).
- In the event that unwashed or unclothed skin to which AndroGel® has been applied does come in direct contact with the skin of another person, the general area of contact on the other person should be washed with soap and water as soon as possible. *In vitro* studies show that residual testosterone is removed from the skin surface by washing with soap and water.

Changes in body hair distribution, significant increase in acne, or other signs of virilization of the female partner should be brought to the attention of a physician.

General
The physician should instruct patients to report any of the following:
- Too frequent or persistent erections of the penis.
- Any nausea, vomiting, changes in skin color, or ankle swelling.
- Breathing disturbances, including those associated with sleep.

Information for Patients
Advise patients to carefully read the information brochure that accompanies each carton of 30 AndroGel® single-use packets.

Advise patients of the following:
- AndroGel® should not be applied to the scrotum.
- AndroGel® should be applied once daily to clean dry skin.
- After application of AndroGel®, it is currently unknown for how long showering or swimming should be delayed. For optimal absorption of testosterone, it appears reasonable to wait at least 5-6 hours after application prior to showering or swimming. Nevertheless, showering or swimming after just 1 hour should have a minimal effect on the amount of AndroGel® absorbed if done very infrequently.
- Since gels are flammable, avoid fire, flame or smoking during use.

Laboratory Tests
1. Hemoglobin and hematocrit levels should be checked periodically (to detect polycythemia) in patients on long-term androgen therapy.
2. Liver function, prostatic specific antigen, cholesterol, and high-density lipoprotein should be checked periodically.
3. To ensure proper dosing, serum testosterone concentrations should be measured (see **DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION**).

Drug Interactions
Oxyphenbutazone: Concurrent administration of oxyphenbutazone and androgens may result in elevated serum levels of oxyphenbutazone.
Insulin: In diabetic patients, the metabolic effects of androgens may decrease blood glucose and, therefore, insulin requirements.
Propranolol: In a published pharmacokinetic study of an injectable testosterone product, administration of testosterone cypionate led to an increased clearance of propranolol in the majority of men tested.
Corticosteroids: The concurrent administration of testosterone with ACTH or corticosteroids may enhance edema formation; thus, these drugs should be administered cautiously, particularly in patients with cardiac or hepatic disease.

Drug/Laboratory Test Interactions
Androgens may decrease levels of thyroxin-binding globulin, resulting in decreased total T4 serum levels and increased resin uptake of T3 and T4. Free thyroid hormone levels remain unchanged, however, and there is no clinical evidence of thyroid dysfunction.

Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis, Impairment of Fertility
Animal Data: Testosterone has been tested by subcutaneous injection and implantation in mice and rats. In mice, the implant induced cervical-uterine tumors, which metastasized in some cases. There is suggestive evidence that injection of testosterone into some strains of female mice increases their susceptibility to hepatoma. Testosterone is also known to increase the number of tumors and decrease the degree of differentiation of chemically induced carcinomas of the liver in rats.
Human Data: There are rare reports of hepatocellular carcinoma in patients receiving long-term oral therapy with androgens in high doses. Withdrawal of the drugs did not lead to regression of the tumors in all cases.
Geriatric patients treated with androgens may be at an increased risk for the development of prostatic hyperplasia and prostatic carcinoma.
Geriatric patients and other patients with clinical or demographic characteristics that are recognized to be associated with an increased risk of prostate cancer should be evaluated for the presence of prostate cancer prior to initiation of testosterone replacement therapy.
In men receiving testosterone replacement therapy, surveillance for prostate cancer should be consistent with current practices for eugonadal men.
Pregnancy Category X (see **CONTRAINDICATIONS**) – Teratogenic Effects: AndroGel® is not indicated for women and must not be used in women.
Nursing Mothers: AndroGel® is not indicated for women and must not be used in women.
Pediatric Use: Safety and efficacy of AndroGel® in pediatric patients have not been established.

ADVERSE REACTIONS
In a controlled clinical study, 154 patients were treated with AndroGel® for up to 6 months (see **Clinical Studies**). Adverse Events possibly, probably or definitely related to the use of AndroGel® and reported by ≥1% of the patients are listed in Table 1.

Table 1. Adverse Events Possibly, Probably or Definitely Related to Use of AndroGel® in the Controlled Clinical Trial

	Dose of AndroGel®		
Adverse Event	5 g	7.5 g	10 g
Acne	1%	3%	8%
Alopecia	1%	0%	1%
Application Site Reaction	5%	3%	4%
Asthenia	0%	3%	1%
Depression	1%	0%	1%
Emotional Lability	0%	3%	3%
Gynecomastia	1%	0%	3%
Headache	4%	3%	0%
Hypertension	3%	0%	3%
Lab Test Abnormal*	6%	5%	3%
Libido Decreased	0%	3%	1%
Nervousness	0%	3%	1%
Pain Breast	1%	3%	1%
Prostate Disorder**	3%	3%	5%
Testis Disorder	3%	0%	0%

* *Lab test abnormal* occurred in nine patients with one or more of the following events: elevated hemoglobin or hematocrit, hyperlipidemia, elevated triglycerides, hypokalemia, decreased HDL, elevated glucose, elevated creatinine, or elevated total bilirubin.
** *Prostate disorders* included five patients with enlarged prostate, one patient with BPH, and one patient with elevated PSA results.

The following adverse events possibly related to the use of AndroGel® occurred in fewer than 1% of patients: amnesia, anxiety, discolored hair, dizziness, dry skin, hirsutism, hostility, impaired urination, paresthesia, penis disorder, peripheral edema, sweating, and vasodilation.
In this clinical trial of AndroGel®, skin reactions at the site of application were occasionally reported with AndroGel®, but none was severe enough to require treatment or discontinuation of drug. Six (4%) patients in this trial had adverse events that led to discontinuation of AndroGel®. These events included the following: cerebral hemorrhage, convulsion (neither of which were considered related to AndroGel® administration), depression, sadness, memory loss, elevated prostate specific antigen and hypertension. No AndroGel® patients discontinued due to skin reactions.
In an uncontrolled pharmacokinetic study of 10 patients, two had adverse events associated with AndroGel®; these were asthenia and depression in one patient and increased libido and hyperkinesia in the other. Among 17 patients in foreign clinical studies there was 1 instance each of acne, erythema and benign prostate adenoma associated with a 2.5% testosterone gel formulation applied dermally.
One hundred six (106) patients have received AndroGel® for up to 12 months in a long-term follow-up study for patients who completed the controlled clinical trial. The preliminary safety results from this study are consistent with those reported for the controlled clinical trial. Table 2 summarizes those adverse events possibly, probably or definitely related to the use of AndroGel® and reported by at least 1% of the total number of patients during long-term exposure to AndroGel®.

Table 2. Incidence of Adverse Events Possibly, Probably or Definitely Related to the Use of AndroGel® in the Long-Term, Follow-up Study I

	Dose of AndroGel®		
Adverse Event	5 g	7.5 g	10 g
Lab Test Abnormal*	4.2%	0.0%	6.3%
Peripheral Edema	1.4%	0.0%	3.1%
Acne	2.8%	0.0%	12.5%
Application Site Reaction	9.7%	10.0%	3.1%
Prostate Disorder**	2.8%	5.0%	18.8%
Urination Impaired	2.8%	0.0%	0.0%

* *Lab test abnormal* included one patient each with elevated GGTP, elevated hematocrit and hemoglobin, increased total bilirubin, worsened hyperlipidemia, decreased HDL, and hypokalemia.
** *Prostate disorders* included enlarged prostate, elevated PSA results, and in one patient, a new diagnosis of prostate cancer; three patients (one taking 7.5 g daily and two taking 10 g daily) discontinued AndroGel® treatment during the long-term study because of such disorders.

DRUG ABUSE AND DEPENDENCE
AndroGel® contains testosterone, a Schedule III controlled substance as defined by the Anabolic Steroids Control Act. Oral ingestion of AndroGel® will not result in clinically significant serum testosterone concentrations due to extensive first-pass metabolism.

OVERDOSAGE
There is one report of acute overdosage by injection of testosterone enanthate: testosterone levels of up to 11,400 ng/dL were implicated in a cerebrovascular accident.

DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION
The recommended starting dose of AndroGel® 1% is 5 g delivering 5 mg of testosterone systemically, applied once daily (preferably in the morning) to clean, dry, intact skin of the shoulders and upper arms and/or abdomen. Upon opening the packet(s), the entire contents should be squeezed into the palm of the hand and immediately applied to the application sites. Alternately, patients may squeeze a portion of the gel from the packet into the palm of the hand and apply to application sites. Repeat until entire contents have been applied. Application sites should be allowed to dry for a few minutes prior to dressing. Hands should be washed with soap and water after AndroGel® has been applied.
Do not apply AndroGel® to the genitals.
Serum testosterone levels should be measured approximately 14 days after initiation of therapy to ensure proper dosing. If the serum testosterone concentration is below the normal range, or if the desired clinical response is not achieved, the daily AndroGel® 1% dose may be increased from 5 g to 7.5 g and from 7.5 g to 10 g as instructed by the physician.

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COMMUNITY NEWS

Gonzalez

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miano strong enough?'"

Threet, while careful to point out that he does not believe Gonzalez or his supporters are homophobic, nonetheless cannot disregard the history of homophobia in politics.

"I don't think people are necessarily homophobic, it's just that there are these disturbing undercurrents that I don't think people are completely aware of. It comes down to: Can a gay candidate who is not 'straight-acting' beat the other guy? And Tom has always been underestimated. He was supposed to get his ass kicked when he ran for president of the Board of Supervisors in 1998, and he overwhelmingly won that."

Gonzalez's campaign manager, Enrique Pearle, himself a gay man, said this issue was raised during meetings with Gonzalez, and "at no point ... did it cross Matt's mind that Tom can't win because he is gay."

Pearle did acknowledge, however, that there is a sense that Ammiano's campaign is not coming together, and that Gonzalez is the candidate who can better "articulate" a progressive message for San Francisco. Ammiano has long been singled out for his voice and mannerisms, and while that likely does not play a role in Gonzalez's decision, it could play a role in voters' decisions.

"If that did factor in to their voting, we would be disgusted," said Pearle, adding that Gonzalez's entry into the race was in no way a move against Ammiano.

Mark Sanchez, a Green Party member and openly gay commissioner of the San Francisco Board of Education, is also sticking with his endorsement of Ammiano.

"Personally I'm going to keep my endorsement with Tom, but I'm not going to nay-say Matt, because I think we're blessed to have two really great candidates running for mayor," said Sanchez, whose own election to the school board in 2000 was helped by Ammiano's endorsement.

Gonzalez's entry, said Sanchez, should serve as a "jump start" to the mayor's race, and may help Ammiano by questioning Newsom's perceived sure-victory.

"The whole mayoral campaign seemed like it had been a little lackluster, because the media has blacked out Ammiano's campaign in favor of giving overexposure to Gavin Newsom," said Sanchez. "Gonzalez has brought more media attention to other candidates and has some more people in the city talking about the race, which is always good."

Robert Haaland is transgender, a Democrat, current president of the Milk Club, and in the past has worked hard for Gonzalez's campaigns. Haaland and the Milk Club are supporting Ammiano for mayor (and city Treasurer Susan Leal for second choice, should instant runoff voting be implemented by November).

Haaland said he worries less about who Gonzalez will pull from the left, as "my understanding is he draws from a variety of different people: he would probably take votes from Newsom, Leal, Angela, and Tom," said Haaland, who nevertheless believes that Gonzalez's entry into the mayoral race could have been handled better.

"I think that as a candidate who is part of the left, it would have been more respectful to sort of give folks a heads up that he was planning on doing that," said Haaland.

Response from the Ammiano camp echoed earlier sentiment about splitting the progressive vote, particularly when Gonzalez's campaign is perceived to not yet have the infrastructure necessary to win. Although Ammiano himself was criticized for running in 1999 despite a late entry that made winning an uphill battle and was ultimately unsuccessful, Hunter Cutting, Ammiano's campaign manager, rejects the comparison.

"Tom was drafted ... tens of thousands of people wrote his name in," Cutting said. "That's the difference between Tom four years ago and Gonzalez now.

"Even this time around, 10,000 people signed petitions to get Tom's name on the ballot," said Cutting, noting that Gonzalez's late decision meant the candidate filing fee was largely responsible for Gonzalez's name appearing on the ballot. "It's hard to see how Matt believes this is going to help the progressive community."

One factor that may have contributed to Gonzalez's decision was the recent announcement that the San Francisco Department of Elections does not plan to implement instant runoff voting for November, the method considered to be advantageous for progressives, particularly Ammiano.

In the event of a regular runoff, said Pearle, progressives need the candidate who can beat Newsom one-on-one during the debates, and Gonzalez already has a history of that on the board. ▼

Stereotypical

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surprise to Bernard Henderson, the organizer of California Black Pride.

"People that market to and for us don't take into account that what they could sell might be offensive. It's about the almighty dollar," said Henderson, who at press time had only heard a description of the dolls and in general does not spend his time trying to educate store owners. "If I found those dolls to be offensive, I probably just wouldn't spend my money in that store. I wouldn't necessarily question them on their standards, I would just leave."

Vincent Baduel, chair of the Gay Asian Pacific Alliance, was angered last year by Abercrombie and Fitch's racist images on T-shirts, but said he views a smaller company's marketing of stereotypical dolls less harmful.

"It's hard to draw the line; everybody has an idea of what is amusing and what is belittling. In general I would consider it free speech unless something would really directly endanger somebody," said Baduel, who added, upon hearing the comments from the dolls, that he would probably deem the dolls to be "in poor taste. I would rather not have them in there."

David Arseneault, the manager of Does Your Father Know, just took over that position on Monday, August 11. Although he said he did not order the dolls and does not plan to re-order them – "They aren't really big sellers" – he does not know of any controversy around the store carrying them.

"They're the last thing I expected someone to complain about," said Arseneault, who added that he can understand someone taking issue with what the dolls say.

Arseneault was in the process of moving the dolls to the back of the store when the *Bay Area Reporter* reached him by phone.

"This store goes through controversy every once in a while," he said. "These dolls sell for a while, and then go through periods where they don't sell at all. When they're gone, I think they're going to be gone." ▼











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Gay general contractor talks of his trade

by Eric Ganther

Queer Careers is a new column dedicated to the question: How does being queer (gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgender) affect the work we choose? Or more simply, how does who we do color what we do? I have three goals: 1) introduce you to happy and successful LGBT workers, 2) inspire you to pursue your own career dreams, and 3) challenge you to explore your particular queer identity beyond the confines of your underwear.

Work is play with a purpose.

Who: Cassius Ellis
What: General contractor
Where: San Francisco



Eric Ganther

Out gay general contractor Cassius Ellis loves his job.

Q: What do you do for a living?

A: I'm a licensed general contractor specializing in bathrooms and kitchens.

That's sexy, does it help you get dates?

Yeah, being a carpenter in the gay community … it definitely helps me get dates.

How did you get started?

I was a musician in Santa Cruz and needed some extra money and started working with a contractor who was also a musician. I found him to be very homophobic – lots of locker room jokes and mimicking. I was just coming out and it was hard to hear. I was very uncomfortable. So after a while, I decided to move to San Francisco and found a full-time apprentice gig with this nice straight guy, who showed me the trade and didn't give me any homophobic crap. After four or five years with him I took an exam with the state and became licensed. He signed off that I had worked as his apprentice and journeyman and then – ta da – I became a general contractor.

Queer Careers

What's it like being gay in a macho setting?

San Francisco is a safe haven, especially in the construction trades. Here, no matter how much of a macho pig you are, you've got experience dealing with gay people. So it's much less of an issue than elsewhere. Most people I work with know I'm gay and I don't have to wear it on my sleeve. I'm just who I am and if somebody asks me, I tell them. If they don't, I don't. The only weird vibes I ever get in San Francisco are from supply houses, not tradespeople out on the job. Sometimes the clerks and owners of the supply houses give me a little attitude. It's a pretty macho world in there with all the competitive male energy. But in San Francisco that's about it.

Are most of your clients from GLBTQ land?

The majority of my clients are gay but not all of them. Gay clients are more comfortable with me in their home because home is a safe place and when you're remodeling, you're going to have contractors in your home. The last thing gay people want is to come home and have a bunch of homophobic jokes or laughing and making fun. You don't want to feel uncomfortable in your queer palace! When they figure out I'm gay, I sense lots of relief.

What's it like working in straight peoples' homes?

I actually feel safer coming out to straight clients because it eliminates the whole sex issue – for them and for me. Nobody gets pursued. I'm there to do a job. I've actually felt uncomfortable in straight client's homes until it was clear that I was a big fag. I spend a lot of time with the wife and not so much with the guy. Most women feel more comfortable with gay men in their homes. It's the hairdresser thing: women aren't threatened by your sexuality and men don't feel the need to be competitive with the macho contractor.

What do you like about the work?

I like being meticulous and I like doing a good job for people. I don't like working with clients who want it done cheaply. I like to do it well. For example, I did a kitchen about a year ago and this woman was at her wits' end. She and her partner allowed me to do my job and do it really well. I remember one day there was a little piece of trim that required 10 cuts and it took a while to do it. It was the kind of thing that I could have lopped off a piece of wood, caulked it up, and been done with it, but I ate up time and profit and did it right, not even thinking about it. But when they came home and saw it, they were thrilled with how precise this one little piece of wood was. It felt really good to have somebody notice and appreciate the level of work I do. That's how I like to work.

What do you do when you're sick of it?

One time, on a boring day, I mentioned to my apprentice that I missed teaching. [Ellis was a music teacher and has a degree from the prestigious Berklee College of Music in Boston.] And he said, "Well, you're still teaching. You're teaching us how to do this work." In the middle of my boredom I realized that I had a purpose. I was giving someone skills so they could make their way in the world. He's learning how to work methodically and see something through, working through the fine points and being thorough and consistent. So he takes from me a broad variety of skills, not just swinging a hammer. It was very satisfying to hear that.

What makes a good general contractor?

Integrity, attention to detail, and honesty. It's a work philosophy: follow things through and do them well. Without these basics, clients are going to have a disastrous project. Either they're going to get screwed (in a bad way) or the project is going to start falling apart in a few years or it will just look bad. And often they won't

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AUGUST EVENTS
SUMMER OF LOVE

QUEER MOVIE NIGHT
Lights! Camera! Action! Enjoy a screening of queer films with other gay guys. Refreshments provided.
Friday, August 15, 7pm @ STOP AIDS Castro, 539 Castro St @ 18th St

Heart 2 Heart
DISCLOSURE…easier said than done. Who starts, and when? This interactive workshop looks at disclosure in a broader context. There are many things we share cautiously. Does it ever get easier? Learn ways to communicate better with your partners. Tuesday, August 19, 7pm @ STOP AIDS Project, 2128 15th St @ Market St

Just the Two of Us
Starting a new relationship or dating someone for a while now? What are the challenges and joys of LTR's? Come share your stories and strategies for keeping your relationship thriving. Thursday, August 21, 7pm @ STOP AIDS Project, 2128 15th St @ Market St

MAGNETIC LOVE
Attracted to your opposite? Many of us are doin' it with men of a different HIV status. Talk about sex, love and intimacy with other poz and negative guys. Come alone or bring your guy. Tuesday, August 26, 7pm @ STOP AIDS Project, 2128 15th St @ Market St
in collaboration with Positive Force

In Our Prime Sunday Social
It's a fabulous garden party in the Castro for men over 40. Refreshments and opportunities to make new friends. Come rain or shine!
Sunday, August 31, 1pm @ Garden, Most Holy Redeemer, 100 Diamond St @ 18th St

ALL EVENTS ARE FREE! Space is limited.
To register, or for more information, visit www.stopaids.org or call us at 415.575.0155
STOP AIDS PROJECT

OBITUARIES

Christopher T. Smith
1973-2003



Christopher Smith, 29, died early Sunday morning, August 12, 2003. An accomplished musician and composer, Christopher was born in New Jersey on November 20, 1973. Raised in Marin, he attended Marin Academy and studied music composition at Bard College, Annandale-on-Hudson in upstate New York.

Most recently here in San Francisco, he played keyboards and wrote the music for his band, "Samara"

He is survived by his long-term partner, Tony Koester of San Francisco; parents Tom and Elsa Smith of Tiburon; and brother Tommy of San Diego.

A Celebration of Christopher's Life will be held Saturday, August 16 at 2:00 p.m. at the Metropolitan Community Church (MCC), 150 Eureka Street. His radiant smile will be greatly missed by many.

Rest well, Boo, you are loved.

OBITUARY POLICY

Obituaries must be typed and no longer than 200 words. No poetry. We reserve the right to edit. If you're submitting a photo of the deceased, write their name on the back. If you include a SASE for the photo's return, write the person's name on the inside of the envelope flap. All obituaries must include a contact name and phone number. Deadline for obituaries is Monday at 5 p.m., with the exception of special display ad obituaries, which must be submitted by Friday at 3 p.m.

Memorial for Louis Williams today

by Cynthia Laird

A celebration of the life of Louis Williams will be held today (Thursday, August 14) at 4 p.m. at Glide Memorial Church, 330 Ellis Street. Mr. Williams worked as a cook for the free meals program at Glide and was one of three people murdered June 28 during a rampage at the Dalt Hotel. The gunman, identified as John Bravard, died at the scene of a self-inflicted gunshot wound.

Mr. Williams, who was gay, would have turned 61 today, said Calvin Gipson, managing director of human services at Glide.

"During the rampage, the gunman made antigay remarks and some people believe that even though the gunman may have been mentally ill, that it is more than a coincidence that it happened during gay Pride weekend and gay people were targeted," Gipson said.

Hotel resident Paul Howard, 60, and Market Street resident Carlin Satterwhite were also murdered during the attack.

Gipson said that the service will end with a vigil march through the Tenderloin to reach out and call for peace and healing for those affected by violence in the Tenderloin. The march is expected to begin at Glide at 5 p.m.

The Reverend Cecil Williams, Janice Mirikitani, pastor Douglass Fitch, and other church staff members will take part in the service. ▼

Planning meeting for LGBT NEDO Sat.

by Cynthia Laird

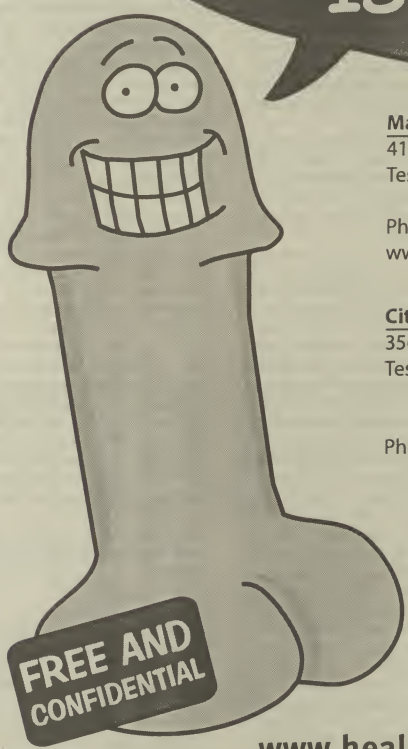
Roberta Achtenberg, former supervisor and current vice president with the San Francisco Chamber of Commerce, will participate in a planning session for the possible establishment of a neighborhood economic development organization focusing on the city's LGBT community that will be held Saturday, August 16 at the LGBT Community Center.

The center, Mayor's Office of Community Development, and District 8 Supervisor Bevan Dufty are sponsoring the meeting, and Dufty said that interested community members are welcome to attend. The meeting will outline the possible benefits of a NEDO that can develop business plans as well as provide access to small business loans, government grants for revitalization, and perhaps, first-time homebuyer loans.

This could be the first NEDO ever focused on the needs of our community," Dufty said.

There will be a free kids' space available for attendees. The meeting takes place from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at 1800 Market Street. For more information or special needs, call Dufty's office at (415) 554-6968.▼

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Catch the wave

by Jim Provenzano

More than a thousand swimmers, water polo players, divers, and even synchronized swimmers will navigate highways and byways toward Palo Alto's Stanford University next weekend for the annual International Gay & Lesbian Aquatics meet, hosted by San Francisco Tsunami.

Casey Cheung, co-chair of IGLA '03, plans on swimming in a couple of events between the gallons of duties organizing this large-scale meet.

"Considering that this is the largest IGLA yet, things are going relatively smoothly," he said. "We were worried about registration, and had concerns about our numbers. But there was quite a surge at the last minute."

Some budget revisions helped accommodate the costs of renting Stanford's pools.

Along with increased training, fundraising parties became a staple of their schedule. "The benefits helped tremendously," said Cheung. "We raised a lot of the money that we do need, upwards of $30,000. That will help us defray our costs."

"The team really got together for each of the events, not just for swimming or polo, but for IGLA. We're also very visible as a team, having had the largest contingent at Gay Games.

"In Sydney, we really made an effort to promote it, and to talk to teams who don't normally compete," said Cheung. "We have people from Frankfurt, Japan, Argentina, Melbourne, and New Zealand attending, who haven't generally been represented. Being the host city has been a draw, not only because it's San Francisco, but where we are on the Pacific Rim, allowing people from the South Pacific to attend."

Even regional groups like the Long Beach, California team – which is bringing 30 participants – are arriving with Speedos, goggles, and a lot of enthusiasm.

"It's nice to see new teams growing," said Cheung, a native of nearby Danville, who first started swimming while visiting a cousin in Hong Kong during junior high school.

Held only once outside North America (Paris in 2000), the event does have larger U.S. and Canadian contingents.

"That's been a barrier, the perception that it's very U.S.-dominated, and it is," said Cheung. "But we've been making an effort to get people to participate."

While Paris will send 30 swimmers, London's Out To Swim is only bringing nine swimmers. Most stayed in England, where Eurogames, held this year in Manchester, is also next weekend.

Polo lowdown

Water polo will enjoy the largest gathering ever, including a tournament of women's matches, another first for IGLA.

Sixteen teams, from U.S. cities Chicago, San Diego, West Hollywood, New York, Seattle, Washington, D.C., Atlanta; Canada's Vancouver, Montreal, and Toronto; even an Australian squad, guarantee a diverse array of talents – and accents – among the over 250 poloists.

Tyler Schnoebelen, Tsunami water polo president, has enjoyed two years with the team. As a teen in Iowa, he had played "jungle ball," a recreational version of water polo.

In college at Yale, he was a fencer, but has often swam recreationally. After moving to San Francisco, while looking at working out beyond the gym, his boyfriend suggested a team sport.

"A friend was a swimmer who played water polo, and it seemed more fun than swim practices." This led to a sense of community in the sport.

"You begin with a drive for competition and fitness, but what you happen into is this great group of people who wouldn't necessarily connect for different reasons. We have artists, CEOs of companies; the social environment is really compelling," Schnoebelen said.

Tsunami now has three teams; A, B, and C squads. "Our intention was to break it down, and make an A team that's really an elite squad," said Schnoebelen.



With 12 players for each six-position match, he said that, "Rotating is part of coaching, getting playing time for all."

Schnoebelen described the varied skills needed, such as, "sprinting down 25 yards, teetering up at as high as you can. You're rotating, thrusting the ball, then dashing back to defend the other way 25 yards, pushing up on people that are really strong athletes."

With one pool devoted to water polo, he said it's "definitely one of the best places to watch water polo. You'll see all the moves."

Todd Aghazadeh noted the growth that's occurred just in the past two years.

"In the open division, Tsunami-A was fourth at its first IGLA in Toronto in 2001. Tsunami-B was 10th, or, as said by B-team goalie Brian Shepp, 'That's means we were the worst gay team in the world!' But then, in Sydney, Tsunami-A got third, and the B team seventh, becoming a strong top team among the non-medal contenders final round group."

Womany more

"U.S. women's water polo team is amazingly strong," said Schnoebelen. "There's no reason it shouldn't carry over into our athletics. Mills College consistently keeps bringing women players, and they're winning masters tournaments."

Tsunami's Virginia Alber-Glanstaetten described her squad as "a mix of women players who played in college and high school, and aren't regular players."

She said that Oakland's team calls themselves The Grey Hairs, "But they're really solid players in terms of consistency."

Alber-Glanstaetten credits Tsunami's Beth Burkhart for having made "an incredible effort to get women together, and making it happen."

Alber-Glanstaetten's two years playing with Tsunami were preceded by swimming in high school, "but no polo playing, and nothing really competitive. I wanted the opportunity to do something else."

She practices regularly at Martin Luther King pool with "the boys," as she calls them. Tsunami's women's team has 15 players, "a strong group, well above intermediate level," she said.

Dana Hunter coaches water polo at Carlmont High School in Belmont. For two years she's scrimmaged with Tsunami, but didn't start swimming until recently.



Courtesy Tsunami Swim Club

Talent pool: Tsunami polo players (in white caps) will score at IGLA.

A native of Redwood City, she started swimming in her early 30s, after quitting smoking. Recruited for IGLA after having practiced with Tsunami a few times, Hunter had swum at Masters tournaments, and even went to Nationals as a distance swimmer.

Although she prefers individual swimming, "You count on yourself in competition," Hunter said, "I couldn't turn down the possibility of playing at Stanford. I go to Masters meets all the times. You never see water polo at a swim meet."

She's interested in seeing how the competition plays out. "There's a goodwill nature, but it's also pretty aggressive," said Hunter. "I'm interested to see how people who are more experienced hold back, and how [less experienced players] prevent themselves from being scrappy."

Hollywould

Known for their glamorous looks as well as their impressive record, the 2002 Games gold medal team, West Hollywood's WH2O, will be a tough team to beat.

Although only 25, Carl Anhalt has spent five years with WH20, and is concluding his second year as IGLA co-president at the championships, and his term as WH2O's vice president.

WH2O is fielding its first women's team this year. 1999's IGLA in Atlanta included a women's exhibition game, but this year will be their first actual tournament.

"Our two open teams are more balanced this year, so even though they will be seeded first and fourth (based on our finishes in Sydney), it's really either team's game this year," said Anhalt.

"We won't know if this strategy will work for us, or against us. Will we lose the title because we spread the talent too thin? It should be an exciting year for our open teams as well. We have a number of players who are new to the team since Sydney, including several women."

Look for Tsunami to be determined to topple the L.A. champs.

"We've heard that the West Hollywood team is pretty cocky," mused Tsunami's Todd Aghazadeh. "They've said they divided their teams evenly, and they'll still be the top two teams because they're so good. We intend to surprise them."

Tsunami's Schnoebelen added, with a competitive assurance, "All that glitters is not always gold."

Sydney sun

The Sydney Stingers water polo team will send 13 Sydney players, three Melbourne players, and even one from San Francisco. Said Stinger Darren Wegg in an e-mail, "a friend of one of the Melbourne guys and wanted to play with us!"

Formed in October 2001 in preparation for the Gay Games 2002, the Sydney Stingers finished in eighth position out of the 15 open teams at the 2002 Games.

"We are very excited to be competing in our first IGLA meet," said Wegg. "We're also looking forward to catching up with all the friends we made at the Gay Games, and some time in the sun! We're in the middle of our winter here, which has made it hard to train. Our pools are mostly outdoors. But we'll be there to have fun, enjoy ourselves and play a competitive game."

Gaynadians

Jim Freihofer, captain of the Toronto Triggerfish, is also proud to send his team to its first IGLA competition.

"Our team was born out of being the host city for the last IGLA Championships in 2001," said Freihofer. "Toronto didn't have a water polo team at the time. But several of us, volunteers for the matches, realized how much fun the game is and made a pact to establish a team."

After recruiting and organizational meetings, "We had a core group of 12 founding members, and we've now grown to 30-plus dues-paying members."

"No one on the team had any previous water polo experience before joining," said Freihofer. "But we have a great coach, who also coaches a local university varsity team here, and he's really helped us progress."

Having entered five other tournaments over the last 18 months, this will be the Triggerfish's first competition at a level this high. "We're excited to see how we rank against some of the more established international teams out there."

The English Bay Water Polo Club of Vancouver, B.C., will have in its ranks three founding players who've been with the team since its inception in 1989. They've participated in the past four Gay Games.

"We participate every year at our provincial championships [similar to state championships]," said Gilles Beaudin. "We were at Seattle's inaugural tournament but not since." They hope that their recent regrouping will result in getting back to the finals standings they enjoyed back in 1990's Vancouver Games.

Despite Canada's recent gay marriage law being passed, teams reps up north reported no newlyweds among their ranks.

Rock lobsters

Despite 200 helpers, IGLA still needs volunteers for many functions, including serving poolside as timers and staffing information desks. E-mail volunteers@igla2003.org.

Competition and events are

next page ▶

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Birthday wishes for gay SF artist



Rick Gerharter

Bambi Lake, right, serenades Jon Sugar, left, during his 54th birthday celebration Sunday, August 10 at A Different Light Bookstore in the Castro. Many friends and comrades stopped by to share stories and readings. The event also celebrated the 19th anniversary of Sugar's Gay Artist and Writers Kollective.

DP property tax

◀ page 3

that if a person in a registered domestic partnership dies without a will, his or her surviving partner will not face an overwhelming tax burden. This is consistent with the statutory provisions enacted by AB2216, which was passed last year.

"Incrementally, we continue to secure real, lasting protections for gay and lesbian couples that reflect the timbre of the voters in the country," Migden said in a statement. "Lately, we've faced some tough opposition from Rome and Washington, but undaunted, we continue to press on toward true equity and greater social understanding."

Migden was referring to the recent news that President Bush wants to define marriage as between a man and a woman and the Vatican's decree that Catholic lawmakers should vote against LGBT-related legislation.

Migden also encouraged same-sex couples to register with the state.

"Now that we have the necessary tools, we have to register with the state so we can use the ruling to protect ourselves and to preserve these rights for future generations," she stated. ▼

For information on the California domestic partner registry, visit the secretary of state's Web site at www.ss.ca.gov and click on the special programs link.

Queer Careers

◀ page 16

even understand why it looks bad. Bad contractors (and believe me, they're out there) aren't honest and don't pay attention to detail. Then I get called in to fix it and to reassure the client who is on guard because they've been screwed.

What makes a successful contractor?

If you want to buy a house in this town, you have to be a business person. You have to hire people. You can't just be taking an hourly paycheck. If that's what you want, you may as well work for somebody else and let them do all the paperwork. You might be good at what you do, but that is very different from running your own business. On the other hand, if you wanted a simpler life, you could work as a handyman by the hour and be free to do other things on your own time. You could build a nice handyman business (especially if it's well organized) fixing doors as opposed to renovating a whole house.

How does one get started in the field?

Unlike the entertainment industry, you don't have to sleep with someone to get started. You just need to get a job in the trades. There are two avenues: the union and the non-union. In the union, you go to the hall and sign on as an official apprentice and get jobs working for a variety of different contractors. They have classes once or twice a month so you can learn new skills and earn more money. Then you become a journeyman for a couple of more years, then take the test. The second way is to just find a licensed contractor and start working for them. Either way, it's essential to find a trade you like and have the aptitude for. I would work for a labor pool to find out what that is and talk to different tradespeople and ask lots of questions.

You mean like, "What's it like being a plumber. Do I have to show my crack?"

Yes! And by the way, you do! You have to be willing to pay your dues, because you'll start at the bottom. In this respect, who you work for will make a big difference. If you get an apprenticeship the big bad contractor might just have you hauling concrete and digging holes. So you have to be careful. My ultimate vision for my company is to have carpenters teamed with apprentices who they get to hire. That way I get to be teaching people skills and running a business. It also frees me up for my other passion – photography.

What do you think makes queer people different?

As gay men (that's my experience so I'll just speak to that), we have the luxury to go back and forth between the macho and the feminine. We nurture and we hunt. We have the ability to cross the boundaries and this improves group cohesion. Gay people are go-betweens, even between adults and children – we're playful. This is why we're loved. Maybe homophobia comes from the pressure straight people put on themselves to be the man or the woman. That's hard work! I'm glad I don't have to do it.

How does this affect you as a contractor?

In my business it's important that I can speak everybody's [gender] language. I appreciate what all parties want. And often, people are afraid to say what they want. The guy is afraid to say he wants pink polka dots on the bathroom walls. The woman is afraid to ask for the kitchen she'd really like. I create a safe space. There's no macho competitive stuff with me, so you can say what you really want. And when there are differences between partners (gay or straight) I can hear both sides and keep them from getting at each other. Is it a gay trait or not? I don't know.

Are you single and available, single and unavailable, partnered and available, or partnered and unavailable?

Well, if I said anything other than partnered and unavailable, my husband would kill me! ▼

Eric Ganther is a career coach for the LGBT community, where he has worked for 17 years. He is also a writer and public speaker on work identity and queer identity. E-mail him with questions or for more information at eric@ericganther.com.

Sports Complex

◀ previous page

Friday, August 22, through Sunday, August 24, which includes some finals, and the hilarious and festive Pink Flamingos water ballet show. Competition is scheduled from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day.

Stanford's Avery Aquatic Center seats 2,500, so there'll be plenty of room. Best yet, entry and parking are free.

Three fun events are a part of the wonderfully wet next weekend.

Friday: "Viva Variety 33," a variety show, August 22, starts at 8 p.m. Most Holy Redeemer Church at 100 Diamond at 18th Street. $15. Proceeds benefit Shanti. www.makeitsoproductions.org.

Saturday: Tsunami Water Polo's latest "Splish!" will be at Studio Z, 314 11th Street, Saturday, August 23, 10 p.m. - 2 a.m. The infamous Heklina of Trannyshack fame (and most recently, a fabulous Bjork number) will be your hostess for the evening. $10 in advance, $15 at the door. (415) 252-7666

Sunday: IGLA'S closing banquet and dance party, August 24 from 7:30 p.m. to 3 a.m. at Ruby Skye, 420 Mason Street, at Geary. ($48 for the banquet and dance, $15 for the dance only, beginning at 10 p.m.). For more info, visit: www.igla2003.org. ▼

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The State of California has just raised the tuition at all community colleges to $18 per credit for all California residents. But, financial aid is available to students who are eligible. Find out if you qualify for the Board of Governors Enrollment Fee Waiver or a State grant to cover tuition, books, transportation and basic living expenses. The Federal Government also has a number or financial aid programs for students who qualify. Some CCSF scholarships also are available.

CCSFís faculty teach an extensive number of noncredit courses which are free of tuition. These free noncredit courses include English as a Second Language (ESL), citizenship, high school equivalency (GED), vocational training, and classes designed for older adults.

For the convenience of students, CCSF offers classes which meet during the day, evenings and on weekends at more than 100 neighborhood locations throughout the City. Increasingly, classes are taught online and via television. Students also can choose from a variety of short-term courses ranging in length from a single meeting to half a semester.

If you need fast-track training, CCSF offers fee-based Continuing Education courses in a variety of subjects such as Business, Computers, Finance, Health and Fitness, and Languages. The Collegeís Office of Contract Education can provide customized training at competitive prices to meet a businessí specific needs with courses offered at a location of the clientís choosing.

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The Collegeís five libraries provide students with nearly 200,000 volumes of printed works for research and personal enrichment, hundreds of terminals for complete internet access, a Media Center for viewing films and videotapes, a Language Center for practicing foreign languages, a Writing Center to help with term papers and other assignments, and a Tutoring Center where students can ask their peers for expert help in most subject areas.

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JULY 24, 31, AUG. 7, 14, 2003

STATEMENT FILE 0268416-00
The following person(s) are doing business as:Pepe Studio. 3285 Mission Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94110. This business is conducted by an individual signed Jose Hulzar. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on July 16, 2003. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 07/16/03.
JULY 24, 31, AUG. 7, 14, 2003

STATEMENT FILE 0268400-00
The following person(s) are doing business as:Canyon Promotional Products. 706 6th Avenue, San Francisco, Ca. 94118. This business is conducted by an individual signed Adriann Sue Debits. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on July 15, 2003. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 07/15/03.
JULY 24, 31, AUG. 7, 14, 2003

STATEMENT FILE 0268519-00
The following person(s) are doing business as:B & B Market. 1600 Sutter Street. San Francisco, Ca. 94109. This business is conducted by an individual signed Zhi Yong Zhzng. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 07/21/03.
JULY 31, AUG. 7, 14, 21, 2003

STATEMENT FILE 0268637-00
The following person(s) are doing business as:Nuts-N-Bolts Graphics. 195 Eureka Street #3, San Francisco, Ca. 94114. This business is conducted by an individual signed Dale K. Murphy. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on July 24, 2003. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 07/24/03.
JULY 31, AUG. 7, 14, 21, 2003

STATEMENT FILE 0268632-00
The following person(s) are doing business as:Advanced Auto Service. 5635 Mission Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94112. This business is conducted by a corporation signed Jeffrey Kwan- president. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 07/24/03.
JULY 31, AUG. 7, 14, 21, 2003

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME. FILE NO:0235413-00
The following person (persons) have abandoned the use of the fictitious business name known as: Advanced Autozone. Located at: 5635 Mission Street. This business was conducted by a General Partnership signed Jeffrey Kwan and Sammy Sooltoo. The fictitious name referred to above was filed in the County of San Francisco on: October 08, 1999.
JULY 31, AUG. 7, 14, 21, 2003

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO. NOTICE TO DEFENDANT: CASE NUMBER: CGC-03-417346 NATIONAL CAR RENTAL SYSTEM, INC; DAVID SHANE YOU ARE BEING SUED BY PLAINTIFF:DAVID LABUA
You have 30 CALENDAR DAYS after this summons is served on you to file a typewritten response at this court.
A letter or phone call will not protect you; your typewritten response must be in proper legal form if you want the court to hear your case. If you do not file your response on time, you may lose the case, and your wages, money and property may be taken without further warning from the court. There are other legal requirements. You may want to call an attorney right away. If you do not know an attorney, you may call an attorney referral service or a legal aid office (listed in the phone book).
The name and address of the court is:
Superior Court of the State of California
City and County of San Francisco
400 McAllister Street, First Floor
San Francisco, Ca. 94102
The name, address, of plaintiff's attorney, Is: Lawrence M. Einhorn
Law Office of Lawrence M. Einhorn
6114 Lasalle Avenue #416
Oakland, Ca. 94611
JULY 31, AUG. 7, 14, 21, 2003

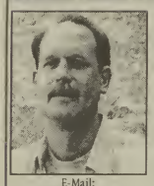
IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CAILIFORNIA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO FILE NO.CNC 03-540868
In the Matter of the Application of Jim Boe III./Jim Beaugh For change of Name. The application of Jim Boe III./Jim Beaugh for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that Jim Boe III./Jim Beaugh has filed an application proposing that his/her name be changed to Nick Scott-Zachetti. Now therfore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department 218 on the 14th day of October at 9:00am., of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted.
AUG. 7, 14, 21, 28, 2003

STATEMENT FILE 0268792-00
The following person(s) are doing business as:Urban Soul Salon. 630 Chenery Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94131.This business is conducted by a general partnership signed Dong Xu Fan and Chu, Yin Kwong. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 07/30/03.
AUG. 7, 14, 21, 28, 2003

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LEGAL NOTICES

STATEMENT FILE 0268863-00

The following person(s) are doing business as:Eight Thirty Seven. 837 Irving Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94122.This business is conducted by an individual signed Jimmy Nguyen. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 07/30/03.
AUG. 7, 14, 21, 28, 2003

STATEMENT FILE 0268933-00

The following person(s) are doing business as:Young's Alteration. 2192 Mission Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94110.This business is conducted by an individual signed Sun Cha Kwon. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 08/05/03.
AUG. 7, 14, 21, 28, 2003

STATEMENT FILE 0268869-00

The following person(s) are doing business as:Cole Valley Press. 769 Cole Street, #2, San Francisco, Ca. 94117. This business is conducted by an individual signed Clinton T. Seiter. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 08/01/03.
AUG. 7, 14, 21, 28, 2003

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME. FILE NO: 255257

The following person (persons) have abandoned the use of the fictitious business name known as: Young's Alteration. Located at: 2192 Mission Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94110. This business was conducted by an individual signed Stella Fan. The fictitious name referred to above was filed in the County of San Francisco on: February 19, 2002.
AUG. 7, 14, 21, 28, 2003

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CAILIFORNIA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO FILE NO.CNC-03-540869

In the Matter of the Application of Huong Thi Quynh Pham. For change of Name. The application of Huong Thi Quynh Pham for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that Huong Thi Quynh Pham has filed an application proposing that his/her name be changed to Celina Huong Thi Quynh Pham. Now therfore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department 218 on the 14th day of October at 9:00am., of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted.
AUG. 7, 14, 21, 28, 2003

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CAILIFORNIA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO FILE NO.CNC-03-540867

In the Matter of the Application of Poya Lotfizadeh For change of Name. The application of Poya Lotfizadeh for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that Poya Lotfizadeh has filed an application proposing that his/her name be changed to Poya Adam Lotfi. Now therfore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department 218 on the 14th day of October at 9:00am., of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted.
AUG. 7, 14, 21, 28, 2003

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CAILIFORNIA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO FILE NO.CNC-03-540871

In the Matter of the Application of Francisco Mendivil Lopez For change of Name. The application of Francisco Mendivil Lopez for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that Francisco Mendivil Lopez has filed an application proposing that his/her name be changed to Barbara Mendivil. Now therfore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department 218 on the 16th day of October at 9:00am., of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted.
AUG. 7, 14, 21, 28, 2003

THIS GIVES NOTICE THAT MATT HOOVER HAS NO BUSINESS CONNECTION OR ASSOCIATION WITH AVATAR DIGITAL LLC OR ZACHARY GOTTLIEB.
AUG. 14, 21, 28, SEPT. 4, 2003

STATEMENT FILE 0268834-00

The following person(s) are doing business as:Tony Lee Consulting. 3845 21st Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94114.This business is conducted by an individual signed Anthony Peter Lee. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on July 31, 2003. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 07/31/03.
AUG. 14, 21, 28, SEPT. 4, 2003

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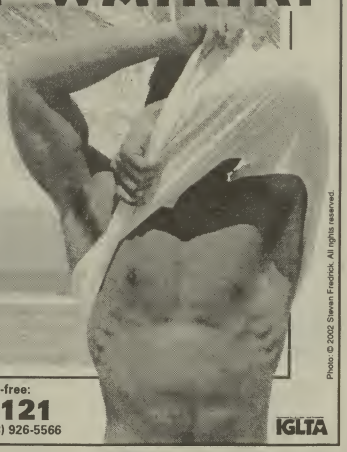


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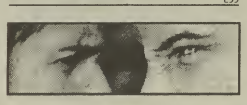
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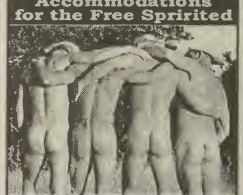
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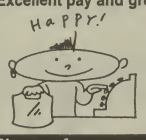
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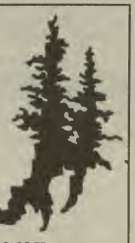
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SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO ORDER FOR PUBLICATION OF SUMMONS OR CITATION
CASE NUMBER: FL038876

Upon reading and filing evidence consisting of a declaration as provided in Section 415.50 CCP by Edith Rizaldo Gordon, and it satisfactorily appearing therefrom that the defendant, respondent, or citee Robert Alexander Gordon, cannot be served with reasonable diligence in any other manner specified in article 3, Chapter 4, Title 5 of the Code of Civil Procedure, and it also appearing from the verified complaint or petition that a good cause of action exists in this action in favor of the plaintiff, petitioner, or citee therein and against the action or that the party to be served has or claims an interest in, real or personal property in this state that is subject to the jurisdiction of the Court or the relief demanded in the action consists wholly or in part in excluding such party from any interest in such property: NOW, on motion of Petitioner in pro per. Attorney(s) for the Plaintiff(s), Petitioner(s), or contestant(s), IT IS ORDERED that the service of said summons or citation in this action be made upon said defendant, respondent, or citee by publication thereof in The Bay Area Reporter a newspaper of general circulation published at San Francisco California, hereby designated as the newspaper most likely to give notice to said defendant; that said publication be made at least once a week for four successive weeks.
IT IS FUTHER ORDERED that a copy of said summons or citation and of said complaint or petition in this action be forthwith deposited in the United States Post Office, post-paid, directed to said defendant, respondent, or citee if his address is ascertained before expiration of the time prescribed for the publication of this summons or citation and a declaration of this mailing or of the fact that the address was not ascertained be filed at the expiration of the time prescribed for the publication.
AUG. 14, 21, 28, SEPT. 4, 2003

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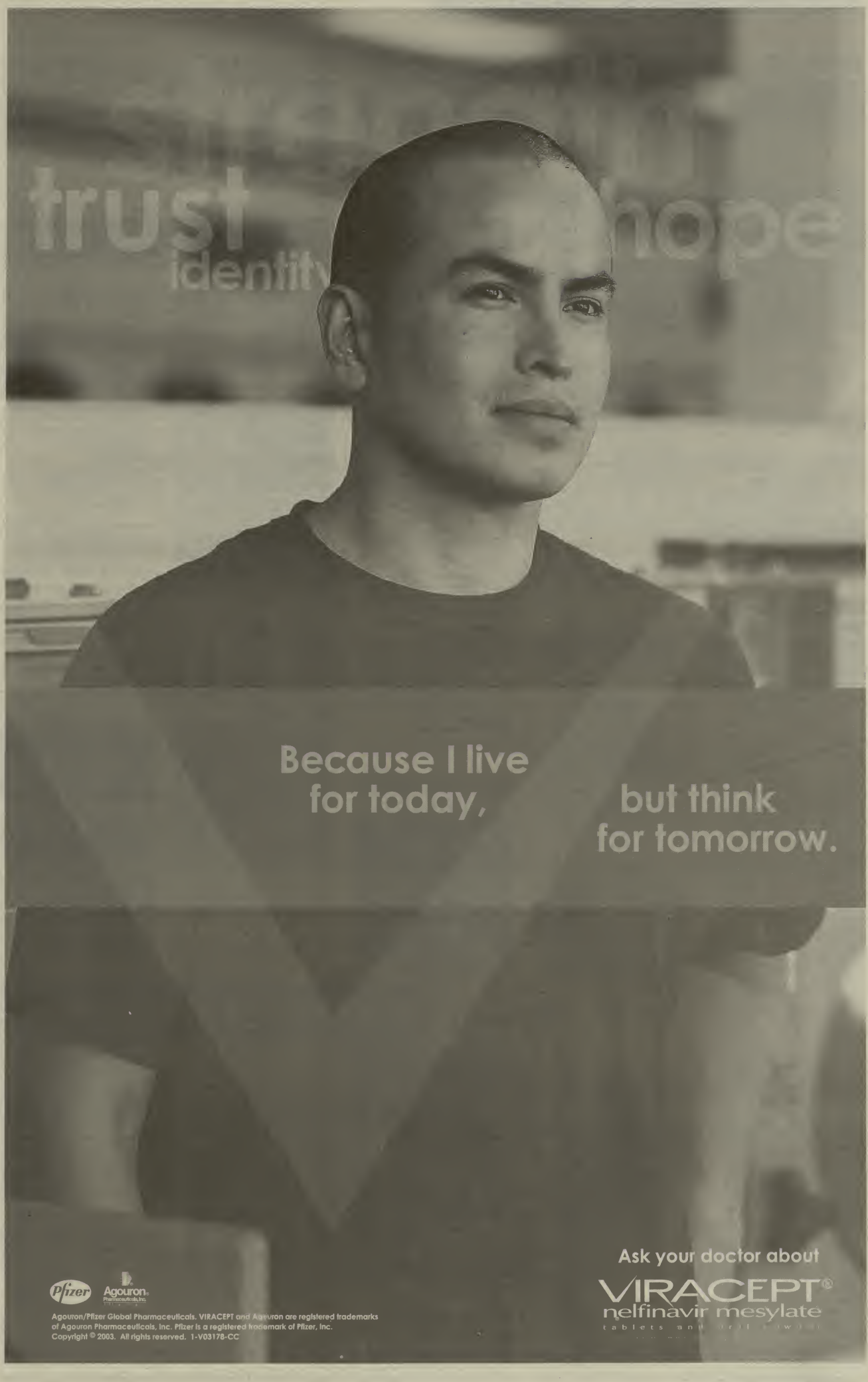
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Ups and downs with the classical rep
Swedish soprano Birgit Nilsson at 85; pianist Lang Lang assaults Tchaikovsky.
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Fernando Rey recalls
Working with Bunuel, whose films play Castro.
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Jerry Hall graduates
From famed supermodel to actress on Curran stage.
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BAY AREA REPORTER

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Vol. 33 • No. 33 • 14 August 2003



Erin gay bragh

'Passionada' director Dan Ireland looks for a mate

by Brandon Judell

If you're single and on the make for a hot 50-year-old director/producer living on the West Coast with a film opening this month, get your hands on Dan Ireland.

This vibrant man, who co-founded the august Seattle Film Festival, is also the executive producer of four panned Ken Russell movies, including the over-the-top *Salome's Last Dance* (1987) and the really-over-the-top *The Lair of the White Worm* (1988). According to the *TimeOut Film Guide,* the latter epic includes a crucified Christ, raping Romans, and Amanda Donohoe as "High Priestess Lady Sylvia Marsh [who] paralyses a Boy Scout with a bite to his willy after leading him on in leather stockings and suspenders over snakes-and-ladders. She then fits on a giant dildo for an assault upon the virgin Eve." Well, maybe you shouldn't invest all of your hard-earned cash with Danny.

As a director, Ireland has a better track record. It includes an episode of *The Outer Limits* TV series, the extremely homoerotic *The Velocity of Gary* (1998) with Vincent D'Onofrio and Salma Hayek, plus the internationally acclaimed *The Whole Wide World* (1996). The latter rescued Renee Zellweger from a *Texas Chain Massacre* sequel and gave her credibility as a thespian.

You recall that biopic, don't you? D'Onofrio, this time as a heterosexual, is a nerd writing books about Conan the Barbarian when love rears its pretty head in the form of Renee. Then, after some smooching, one of the leads commits suicide, and the other writes about it decades later.

Anyway, Ireland's new romancer, *Passionada,* stars the highly attractive Jason Isaacs as Charlie Beck, a sweet card-counter who's down on his luck. Isaacs, as all you Harry Potter fanatics know, plays the villainous Lucius Malfoy in the screen series. Well, Beck falls in love with a singing Portuguese-America widow who's still mourning for her sailor spouse. She's portrayed by Sofia Milos, who's currently starring opposite the tedious David Caruso on *CSI: Miami.* For eye-candy, there's Chris Tardio as an overly muscled Portuguese sailor. (Sadly, due to a new ending attached to *Passionada,* his part has been greatly diminished.)

Danny is sad about Chris' plight but happy about having a second chance at correcting his flick.

"Oh good, you didn't see the other ending. Oh, god!" he exclaims, laughing. "It was horrible. It was just dreadful, and I hated shooting it, and I fought all the way, and Jason fought. We were all trying to get it changed because it wasn't fitting. You see, the movie started changing as we went on and on. When you bring actors to it, you get a whole different life. So as we put our

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One inspired ensemble

Eighth Blackbird's 'Thirteen Ways'

by Jason Serinus

Think the expansive vision of the Kronos Quartet, the freshness of youth, and an unusual complement of instruments. Note that the name of contemporary music ensemble Eighth Blackbird's new CD derives from Wallace Stevens' enigmatic poem "Thirteen Ways of Looking at a Blackbird," whose complete text is recited in the course of the longest work on the program, Thomas Albert's 29-minute *Thirteen Ways* (1997). Add in members' names and instruments: Molly Alicia Barth, flutes; Michael J. Maccaferri, clarinets; Matt Albert, violin & viola; Nicholas Photinos, cello; Matthew Duvall, percussion; and Lisa Kaplan, piano. While it doesn't necessarily affect their musicianship, it's always nice to know that Maccaferri and Albert are out gay men.

Eighth Blackbird is one of the most adventurous contemporary music ensembles on today's scene. Its members first joined together in 1996 at the Oberlin Conservatory, and are currently ensemble-in-residence at the University of Chicago. Quality of repertoire and musicianship are stellar. *Thirteen Ways* (Cedille) begins with an arrangement of Joan Tower's *Petroushskates* (1980). Tower, who contributes her own liner notes, explains that her homage to Stravinsky's *Petroushka* invokes an imaginary company of skaters, "thereby creating a sort of musical carnival on ice." It's the most carefree work on the disc, quite delightful and upbeat, with sharp rhythmic bursts and bubbling melodies.

Eighth Blackbird was surprised to dis-

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Wherein Out There has trouble sticking to the point

by Roberto Friedman

Sometimes the world does work in mysterious if tangential ways. We were reading an advance copy of *Factory Made: **Warhol** and the Sixties* by **Steven Watson** (coming in October from Pantheon Books) and came across a picture of NYC downtown denizens **Remy Charlip**, **Rufus Collins** and **Billy Linich** in Central Park in 1959, photographed by **Eric Brunn**. We were struck by the picture and studied it.

Lo and behold, in that very day's mailbag was a letter from Charlip himself, who these many years later lives artfully in San Francisco, having achieved distinction in the worlds of art, dance, theatre, and children's books. The 31st of Charlip's books for children is called *Little Old Big Beard and Big Young Little Beard, A Short and Tall Tale* (Marshall Cavendish), and it's dedicated to "the memory of my biggest, beardedest friend, [composer] **Lou Harrison**."

"He was my first live-in lover," Charlip wrote, regarding Harrison, in his letter to us. "I was 20, and he was 32. When I showed him the paintings for the book [by RC and **Tamara Rettenmund**] before he died, I told him I always wanted to do a book about gayness. He said, 'You have.'

"The publishers never mentioned the loving relationship the cowboys have," he admits. But it's clear from the story's penultimate scene that bearish **Little Old Big Beard** feels quite comfortable with his lovely, wizened head in **Big Young Little Beard**'s gazellish lap. It's a wonderful tale for children and childlike adults. Remy Charlip reads and signs books at Booksmith, 1644 Haight St., on Sunday, Aug. 17.



Eva Soltes

Remy Charlip with late composer Lou Harrison at Strawbale House.

The dream factory

But back to that adult book we were reading, on Warhol and the '60s. Author **Steven Watson** has written extensively on the history of the American avant-garde, the **Beats** and the **Harlem Renaissance**; his last book, *Prepare for Saints*, concerned the collaboration of lesbian author **Gertrude Stein** and gay composer **Virgil Thomson** in their landmark opera *Four Saints in Three Acts*, and brought in figures from the larger circles of American Modernism of that time.

This is all very timely considering the upcoming first production of **San Francisco Opera**'s 2003-04 season, *The Mother of Us All*, Stein and Thomson's collaboration on the life story of proto-feminist **Susan B. Anthony**. The International Museum of Women is planning to install an exhibit on Anthony and the women's suffrage movement in the lobby of the Opera House during the run. More on all this soon, but let's get back to the '60s for a moment.

Like his previous books, Watson's account of the group that coalesced around Andy Warhol and the Silver Factory from 1964-68 is steeped in social anthropology, involving the personal histories of, among others, **Lou Reed**, **Nico**, **Joe Dallesandro**, **Candy Darling**, and Warhol's attempted assassin, **Valerie Solanas**. That Valerie was sure a pistol.



Out There

Anyway, *Factory Made* also brings fresh accounts of Warhol's trademark anti-narrative filmmaking, as in the 1968 "Western" *Lonesome Cowboys*. "While [Warhol superstar] **Viva** was improvising a great line — 'This is a clean town, and I don't want horse piss in the middle of the street' — Andy focused on a sign. When a horse reared, Andy shot in a different direction."

But now flash-forward from the Factory Years to the **Terminator** Years: As long as we're doing makeovers on straight guys *à la Queer Eye*, can we give them some modicum of wit, too? Fewer canned sound-bites about, oh say, *bikini waxes*, and more improvisation would seem to be required for these quick-footed times.

As Viva says in Watson's book, "Men seem to have trouble doing these nonscript things. It's a natural for women and fags — they ramble on. But straight men can't."

Remembering Lorca

At dawn 67 years ago on August 19, 1936, one of the world's great gay artistic voices was silenced in Franco's Spain. The Fascists murdered poet/playwright **Federico Garcia Lorca** and tossed his body into an unmarked grave. On the eve of this anniversary, playwright **Luis Oropeza** bears witness to the dangers of what he calls "a creeping Fascism" in an evening featuring music, sangria, tapas and verse, Monday, August 18, 5-8 p.m. at Tangerine restaurant, 16th & Sanchez Sts., (415) 626-1700. The event is free and open to the public.

Oropeza says, "This is a time in this country right now, for Latinos, queers, artists, the Left and anyone who loves theatre, to celebrate the beliefs and poetry of this poet of the people." He will perform his one-man show *Blood Poet Lorca!*, directed by **John Maloney**, at San Francisco Actors Theater this coming October. More will be revealed as the engagement approaches.

First fest

The first **International Black Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Film Festival** concludes on Sun., Aug. 17 at Oakland's Parkway Theatre. The film festival caps "Bay Area Black in the Life," a weeklong celebration of African and African-American gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender life and culture.

The two days of films (Aug. 12 & 17) feature films and shorts which take as their subjects black gays and lesbians from all over the world. Sunday's screenings are a mixture of features and shorts starting at 3 p.m., and concluding at 6 p.m. with the feature *Dakan*, the first film on homosexuality from sub-Sahara Africa. Films screen at the Parkway Theatre, 1834 Park Blvd., Oakland. Info: call (510) 814-2400 or visit www.clubrimshot.com.

Slot machine

Comedy Central's upcoming animated series starring leathery Hollywood producer **Robert Evans**, *Kid Notorious*, is in post-production and ready to court controversy. According to the NY *Post*'s "Page Six" column, in the series' very first episode, erstwhile film star **Sharon Stone** calls Evans "to tell him she's dropping out of his latest project to do a version of *The Vagina Monologues* called *Sharon Stone's Vagina*. Evans tells the audience, 'Someone put it into that starlet's head that she could act. Sharon Stone's vagina? It can't act, either!'" *Kid Notorious* premieres in October.

Biting the Apple

At a recent Broadway performance of *Long Day's Journey into Night*, San Francisco playwright/director **F. Allen Sawyer** (*Gross Indulgences: The Trials of **Liberace***) found himself sitting behind Manhattan playwright/director **Moises Kaufman** (*Gross Indecencies: The Trials of **Oscar Wilde***). Kaufman confirmed he would soon be moving *I Am My Own Wife*, his off-Broadway hit about German transvestite **Charlotte von Mahlsdorf**, to Broadway. Kaufman's already looking forward to directing **Rita Moreno** in Berkeley Rep's upcoming production of **Terrence McNally**'s *Master Class*.

Sawyer was in Manhattan scouting for an off-off-Broadway venue for his hit *Lavender Lockeroom*. After enjoying **Vanessa Redgrave**'s bravura performance as **Eugene O'Neill**'s morphine-addicted protagonist, Sawyer and his boyfriend, *BAR* scribe **Jim Van Buskirk**, caught sister **Lynn** as one of **Alan Bennett**'s *Talking Heads*. In her brilliant monologue, **Redgrave** plays an inadvertent foot fetishist; and in *her* monologue, the usually glamorous **Christine Ebersole** is prim and dowdy. Ebersole told them she was soon off to Hollywood to shoot six episodes of *Kid Mayor*.

Sometime-San Francisco songbirds **Kitty Ultrasound** and **Mychelle Colleary** were heard howling at *Kiki & Herb: Coup de Theatre*, that perversely politically incorrect lounge act gone legit. Post-performance, **Justin Bond** confessed that singing the next day at a friend's Fire Island wedding might bring on "Kiki realness." ▼

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A model's stage turn

Jerry Hall after Mick Jagger, in SF

by Richard Dodds



Alwyn Coates

Hall has garnered lots of press for her brief nude scene in *The Graduate*.

Jerry Hall, after a day of rehearsals for *The Graduate*, launched into a list of projects that have been keeping her busy in post-Mick Jagger life. They range from working toward a college diploma to providing the voice for a voluptuous nun in a controversial new animated series called *Popetown* for the BBC. And, of course, appearing as the seductress Mrs. Robinson at the Curran Theatre.

"See what celibacy can do for you," she said in her hybrid English-Texas drawl. But, she added, "I'm trying to change that." The celibacy, that is.

For most of her adult life, the 47-year-old has been mainly famous as Mick Jagger's wife, companion, and mother of four of his children. True, she was a big-time fashion model by age 17. But that fame was soon eclipsed by her relationship with Jagger, a serial adulterer in her view, that came to an abrupt end four years ago when Jagger became a father without Hall's help.

It's a notoriety that she has been developing into a full-blown acting career, and she's taken a few lumps for her efforts. Hall herself brought up one of the most quoted of the zingers that greeted her brief nude scene as Mrs. Robinson in the London stage production of *The Graduate*.

The Daily Mail's critic had this to say about the undraped Hall: "Two fried eggs in the gloaming — that's all I saw."

"All of that going on about how small my breasts are," Hall said. "I'm a 5-foot-11 model. What do you expect? At least they're still up there."

Overall, her reviews as Kathleen Turner's replacement were mixed leaning toward negative. She figures that some of the knocks came from her image as a theatrical interloper, but she's been back on the London stage several times since *The Graduate*, to increasingly positive notices. "I'm slowly getting respect," she said, "now that they see I'm sticking with it."

When the chance came to revisit her role as Mrs. Robinson in a US tour of *The Graduate*, she quickly signed up. "I'm feeling more confident this time. I'm already up and running."

With the exception of an unsatisfying run in *Bus Stop* in 1990, *The Graduate* marked her professional acting debut. "I had always wanted to be an actress," she said, "but I fell into modeling and was making so much money. I felt I had missed the boat."

French twist

Hall was just 16 (and with a poster of Mick Jagger in her bedroom) when she fled her unhappy home in Texas. "My father was very violent. He drank and took uppers," she said. "We all skedaddled as quickly as we could. I had been told to be a model because I was tall and skinny, and my mother said, 'Go to the Riviera.' I did, bought a crocheted bikini, and before I knew it was on the cover of French *Vogue* and having lunch with Jean-Paul Sartre, Salvador Dali, and Simone de Beauvoir."

And then along came Mick. "He was 31 and androgynous and beautiful," Hall said. "He was a model groupie. The sex was fabulous."

Eventually, his womanizing sent her into a deep depression, and not even a sworn oath of monogamy could convince her to go down that road again. "I think he'd have to go to a clinic first," Hall said. "What he has is like alcoholism."

Hall and Jagger now get on just fine, she said, even if she does seem to enjoy playing the scorned-woman-turned-scorner. She talks easily about Jagger's efforts to rekindle their relationship, from buying the flat next door to Hall's home in England, to giving her expensive jewelry on Christmas and birthdays. In turn, she sent Jagger 60 roses for his 60th birthday.

Hall, traveling with her children, says Poppa Mick will drop in on the gang when *The Graduate* makes it to Los Angeles. And when it plays Austin, she's expecting her Texas friends and relatives to turn out. She remembered how she'd put on her "Tootsie Roll shows" back in Mesquite in an effort to get a laugh or even a smile.

Did she ever manage to get her father to smile? She paused. "When he was dying, I brought him a bunch of cash, and he was happy."

Now she's dealing with her own children as they approach adulthood. The oldest, 19-year-old Elizabeth, has a modeling contract with Lancome. One reason Hall is taking college courses is to convince the younger three not to skip university.

She thinks there is a message in *The Graduate* that all parents need to hear about listening to your children. "With my kids," Hall said, "I try not to be judgmental. The more I let them talk, the more they open up. After they get to 16 or so, you have to start being their friend."

The Hall-Jagger kids, of course, have grown up in the rock-and-roll world where drugs and alcohol can be famously abundant. But Hall isn't worried. "My kids say they don't drink or do drugs because they watched what it did to Keith Richards."

There is a great book in Hall's story, from a grim childhood to success, fame, heartbreak, and redemption in a glamorous world. She must have a million stories to tell, but don't look for an autobiography.

"You really have to tell the truth," Hall said, "and I don't think I want to tell the truth." ▼

***The Graduate* will run through Sept. 7 at the Curran Theatre. Tickets are $32-$75. Call 512-7770.**

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Paul Kolnik

Bianca Marroquin, center, has the charm of a young Shirley MacLaine as Roxie Hart in the touring *Chicago*.

Murderess row

'Chicago' still thrills in the flesh

by Richard Dodds

Why do they keep making stage musicals from popular movies — shows like *Saturday Night Fever, Urban Cowboy,* and *Chicago?* Oh, that's right, *Chicago* was on Broadway before it became a blockbuster movie. Still, the current *Chicago* tour was inspired by the success of the movie, and the producers are expecting that filmgoers will now want to see what *Chicago* looks like "live." They should like what they see, based on the opening night at the Golden Gate Theatre.

Chicago on tour still feels like a fresh show, even though its model has been running on Broadway for seven years. Its vintage goes back even further, to 1975, when the original Bob Fosse production opened. But with a minimalist design that helps focus energy, the revival has a lean-and-mean attitude that befits the material's merry cynicism.

The production visiting San Francisco has something of a hodgepodge of a cast, but the structure of the show, built like a series of vaudeville vignettes through Fred Ebb and John Kander's songs, can actually reward stylistic varieties and forgive a number of weaknesses.

But no excuses need be invoked for murderer Roxie Hart as created by Bianca Marroquin, who played the role in Mexico City and who has the charm and vivacity of a young Shirley MacLaine plus plenty of her own talent. There is less originality in Brenda Braxton's celebrity criminal Velma Kelly, but in the context, the performance still passes muster.

Kevin Richardson, a member of the Backstreet Boys, is especially rewarded by the show's structure, which doesn't require a sustained performance. He plays the hyperslick lawyer Billy Flynn, who knows how to manipulate the media for his clients, and Richardson is able to bring some edge and charisma to the role even if his bouts with dialogue can be muddy.

Marcia Lewis Bryan is the one holdover from the original 1996 production, and while she and Braxton score with their duet about "Class," her performance feels almost too relaxed. Ray Bokhour gets it right as Amos, Roxie's milquetoast husband, and R. Bean creates a wonderful version of the warbling Mary Sunshine, a sob-sister reporter with a big secret.

With the sexy choreography by Ann Reinking ("in the style of Bob Fosse") and direction by Walter Bobbie, the production actually grew out of a concert version presented in New York's *Encores!* series. It proved to be a serendipitous discovery of how less could be more with *Chicago.* ▼

***Chicago* will run at the Golden Gate Theatre through Aug. 24. Tickets are $43-$85.**

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Returning victorious at 85

Decca presents Birgit Nilsson to a new audience on disc

by Stephanie von Buchau

I cannot tell a lie. In the 50-plus years I've been attending the opera, no singer has ever given me more sustained thrills than the Swedish Wagnerian soprano Birgit Nilsson. She was never a popular choice with operatic insiders, who found her famously extroverted style too mentally healthy for the passionately neurotic women she often portrayed on stage — Elektra, Salome, Lady Macbeth, the Dyer's Wife, Isolde.

I remember the loathsome Hedda Hopper, who knew less about opera than my cat Mustard Gas, telling the world that Nilsson was cold and unsexy as the tormented Irish princess. A local television critic thought the same when she sang *Tristan und Isolde* here in 1970 with her celebrated partner, Wolfgang Windgassen. Conducted by the underrated Otmar Suitner, these five unforgettable performances were Windgassen's only American appearances as Tristan, another Kurt Herbert Adler casting coup. The TV guy whined that nobody would want to have sex with this Isolde. Those of us wringing out our underwear after every performance could only pity the poor fella.

Nilsson, who was born on a farm in Vasta Karup, Sweden in 1918, celebrated her 85th birthday this May. And her longtime recording label offers as homage a meaty compilation of Nilsson recordings, cleverly titled "*Ritorna vincitor!*" *The Legendary Birgit Nilsson* (Decca; two discs). It's clever because, in "returning victorious" (Aida's famous aria of public and private conflict), Nilsson is presented to a new public first in her Italian, non-Wagnerian mode.

There are plenty of people who don't like Nilsson in Italian opera, but I'm not one of them. She's the second best Aida and Tosca I've ever heard live on stage — second both times to Gwyneth Jones in fabulous voice (granted, not always a given); easily the dominant Turandot (which I first heard in San Francisco in 1960 at Cosmopolitan Opera); and my preferred recorded Amelia in Solti's *Un Ballo in maschera* (Decca). This admittedly unusual taste is shared by Lord Harewood, founder of the British *Opera* magazine. The opening year of the Seattle Opera *Ring,* Harewood and I, lubricated by many gin-and-tonics, horrified a boatload of opera fans on Seattle's Lake Washington by defending Nilsson's heroic Verdi singing.

Erosensational

I understand why there is no selection from *Un Ballo* on this compilation. Amelia's "Morro, ma prima in grazia" is the weakest link on the complete set. On the other hand, the love duet with Carlo Bergonzi, Verdi's most passionate expression of eros, is sensational. I heard Nilsson sing Aida with Franco Corelli at the Met, and I'll never forget that gleaming sound soaring over the full ensemble. Aside from wiping his nose on her sleeve during the Nile scene, Corelli was an ideal partner if you like your Verdi heroic — and in 3,000-plus seat opera houses, do we have any other choice? On this Decca compilation, the Italian arias are from early solo sets conducted by John Pritchard (SFO's last music director), Argeo Quadri (an amazing "O don fatale" with a firm lower register, and "Pace, pace"), Thomas Schippers (Lady Macbeth's entrance aria), and "Vissi d'arte" from the underrated complete *Tosca* conducted by Lorin Maazel.

Then we get big chunks of three major Nilsson roles: Brunnhilde's Immolation, Elektra's entrance monologue, and the final scene of *Salome.* Alas, all are from her complete recordings of those operas conducted by Georg Solti. Again, I cannot tell a lie. As much as I adore Nilsson, I can't stand Solti, who pounds the music into submission with square rhythms and zero sensual appeal. If you need proof, listen to the second disc, where the diva sings Isolde's "Mild und leise" and the "Wesendonk Lieder" accompanied by Hans Knapperstbusch and Colin Davis. Plus, Decca engineers never quite caught the fire of Nilsson's voice as well as they did the ice. (She's on record as not liking her studio recordings very much; if you want a realistic-sounding Nilsson *Ring* or *Tristan,* get Karl Bohm's sets from Bayreuth on Deutsche Grammophon).

The second disc segues from Wagner into most of the Scandinavian songs (with orchestra) album issued in 1965 at the very height of Nilsson's vocal prowess. It is not an intimate affair — she used to conscientiously change her gown at intermissions of song recitals, a touchingly old-fashioned bow to "pleasing the audience" — but the seven famous Sibelius songs, the three Grieg melodies and the four numbers by Ture Rangstrom (including the majestic "Valkyrie" with its blazing high C) are delivered straight to the heart.

And then, as if to prove she wasn't cold and had a sense of humor, she sings "I Could Have Danced All Night" from *My Fair Lady,* which, with "Wien, Wien, nur du allein," was her preferred encore. It is conducted by Herbert von Karajan from his gala *Die Fledermaus* recording. He was my favorite conductor, and I longed to hear him lead a *Ring* or *Tristan* with my favorite soprano. I heard them once in an intense *Die Walkure* at the Met, but generally they didn't get along. I always puddle up when I hear this encore, dreaming of lost opportunities. Again, I cannot tell a lie. ▼



ImageWire

Birgit Nilsson and Franco Corelli at the Metropolitan Opera: heroic Verdi.
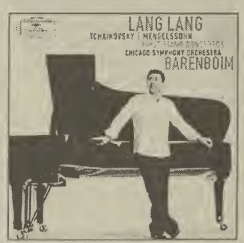
Pummeling Pyotr

Lang Lang's aggressive Tchaikovsky on CD

by Tim Pfaff

It's easy to wax nostalgic about the Cold War these days. Lang Lang's new recording of Tchaikovsky's First Piano Concerto (paired with the Mendelssohn First, on DG) comes as a strange reminder of the day when the Tchaikovsky's Opus 23 was ubiquitous and, it seemed then, perennially welcome. It's become all but a concert rarity in recent years, a victim of its own overexposure. Considering the exemplary recordings of the last 20-some years that haven't restored it to the place it deserves, it's hard to believe that Lang Lang's unrelentingly aggressive and ultimately empty reading of the piece will right the balance.

From its premiere, the gay composer's B-flat Minor Concerto, currently re-estimated as one of the great piano concertos of the last century, has had a checkered reception. It's oddly reflective of the fickle public regard of gay people, in that respect. It was, however, indisputably a "standard" when, in 1958, a handsome young gay American pianist, Van Cliburn, won first prize at the first Moscow Tchaikovsky Piano Competition with it. A mere half-year after the Soviet affront of Sputnik, the event was viewed here as beating the Russians at their own game. Cliburn was given a ticker-tape parade for his part in keeping the world safe from Communism.



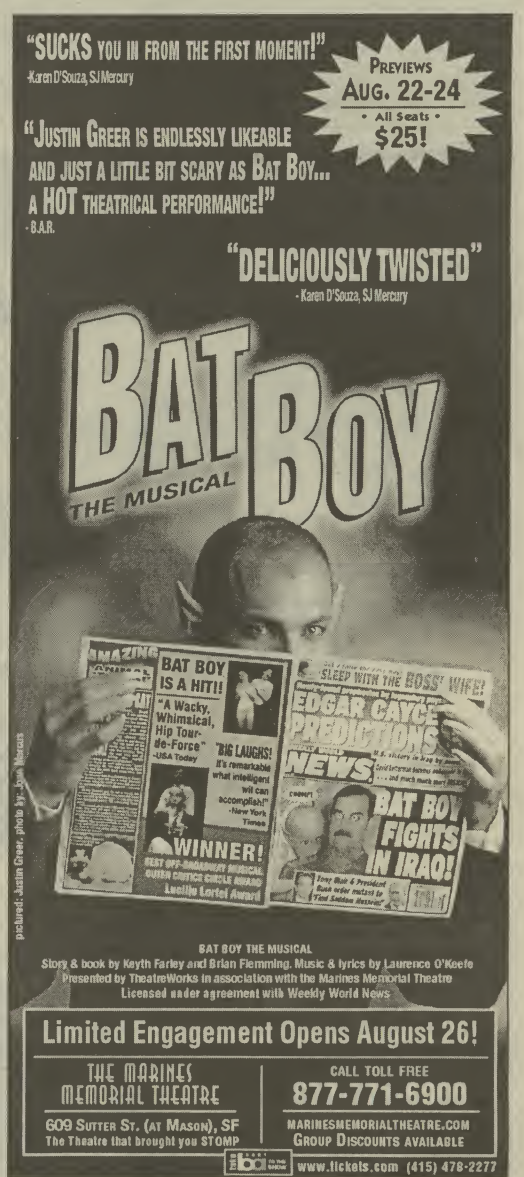
Then everyone was playing it, you couldn't get away from it, and, finally, it withdrew again, less from audience fatigue than from renewed disapproval by the tonier elements of the musical establishment. The last pianist to make a truly great recording of it, Ivo Pogorelich (with Claudio Abbado and the London Symphony Orchestra, also on DG), noted that even he put off learning it because in Moscow, where he studied, he was so sick of hearing fellow students bang away at it that he developed an aversion to it.

It may be making a comeback, because Lang Lang began his international career with it in 1999, replacing an indisposed André Watts in the work at the Chicago Symphony's prestigious Ravinia Festival. The Chicago is his support again on the new CD, with its music director Daniel Barenboim at the helm. If I had heard it "blind" and told that it was Watts at the keyboard, I might have believed it, which is not the good news.

Wild chase

Like Watts, Lang has the technique to pummel both a composition and an audience into submission. This concerto demands a big technique, but, in addition, much more. The best renditions of it

page 39 ▶



Luis Buñuel's charm school

Actor Fernando Rey remembers great director whose films play Castro

by David Lamble

For his last film, *That Obscure Object of Desire*, director Luis Buñuel chose to focus on a man, played by Fernando Rey, who is frustrated in his pursuit of a woman, set against the backdrop of a terrorist group setting off bombs in the city. In his witty autobiography *My Last Sigh*, published a year before his death in 1983, Buñuel expressed his shock at the film's reception.

"Ironically, a bomb exploded on October 16, 1977, in the Bridge Theatre in San Francisco, where the movie was being shown; and during the confusion that followed, four reels were stolen and the walls covered with graffiti like, 'This time you've gone too far!' There was some evidence to suggest that the attack was engineered by a group of homosexuals, and although those of this persuasion didn't much like the film, I've never been able to figure out why."

Fans of Buñuel will realize a kind of double irony: in the 1992 English edition of their book *Conversations with Luis Buñuel*, Jose De La Colina and Tomas Perez Turrent recall the even more turbulent reception accorded an earlier Buñuel feature, *L'Age d'or*, during its 1930 premiere screening. "Armed with stinkbombs, a group of right-wing protesters splash ink on the screen, tear up seats, manhandle spectators, and slash paintings by Dalí, Miro, Ernst, Ray, and Tanguy on display in the lobby."

At 65, Buñuel returned to Paris and kicked off his most productive period with six films: *Belle de Jour, The Phantom of Liberty, The Milky Way, Diary of a Chambermaid, The Discreet Charm of the Bourgeoisie*, and *That Obscure Object of Desire*. All but the first will be featured in brand-new prints beginning Friday at the Castro. Our examination of Buñuel centers on a 1987 conversation with Fernando Rey, the Spanish actor (1912-1994) who starred in four Buñuel films, including *Discreet Charm* and *That Obscure Object*.

First impression

Rey, who came to dearly love Buñuel, confessed that their first meeting was neither discreet nor charming. "When I first met Buñuel at the Cannes Festival, I didn't like him, the way he talked, everything. Many years later, I met him again in Mexico. I had lunch in his house, and little by little, I began to understand the human being and the director."

He and Buñuel would probably never have worked together if the director had not seen rushes of a cameo where Rey played a dead body in a film co-produced by Mexican and Spanish companies. "I did nothing in that sequence because I was dead. He saw me and said, 'How fantastic actor!' And I thought, 'He is pulling my legs. I'm dead!' He said, 'No, you're very good.' That was very Buñuel. He wasn't trying to joke, he was really impressed by my dead scene!"



Fernando Rey (second from right) in *Discreet Charm of the Bourgeoisie*

In *Discreet Charm*, there is a kind of running joke about a dinner party of elegant people who find that the one thing they can't do is sit down and eat the meal in front of them. Rey, who plays a heroin dealer in the film, a variation on a role he had just performed for a very different director, William Friedkin, in *The French Connection*, says that *Discreet Charm* provided him with some of his best memories of working with Buñuel. The film also illustrates how the director worked with actors, stressing movement in front of the camera.

"Oh, wonderful, it was one of my best souvenirs to make that film. You know, with Buñuel, you don't have to rehearse a lot, but in that film we had a lot of rehearsals about movements in front of the camera. It was like music, I think he was trying to visualize music with our movements."

Rey noted that Buñuel had some rather peculiar advice for his actors: "'Fernando, don't move too much your head, because that is like a horse, you know, don't be a horse-head.'" Buñuel didn't interfere with an actor's technique, and usually felt that the first take was the best take. "Sometimes I dared to say, 'Please let me do another,' and he would say, 'Oh, okay,' but then he would add, 'Print the first!' Some directors, they want to make 80 takes, and that's terrible." ▼

***Luis Buñuel in Paris* series plays the Castro Theatre, Aug. 15-21.**

Dan Ireland

◀ *Arts cover*



Samuel Goldwyn Films/Fireworks

Sofia Milos, left, in *Passionada*

footage together, I did everything I could to make it work, but it just didn't feel right. Now it does."

Down memory lane

Ireland was partly attracted to the project of *Passionada* because he himself was raised without the benefit of a father. Also, Sofia's character reminded him of his own Mom.

"Yeah," he reminisces. "My mother was that beautiful. My mother was gorgeous. Everyone would say she looked like Elizabeth Taylor, and she did. I mean when she was that age. I always remember looking at my mother thinking, you're so beautiful. I tried to set her up on dates. Oh, it totally blew up in my face. My mother was fuming. I'd tell guys that I'd think were attractive that my mother was available, and I'd bring them by the house. Oh, it didn't work. It was terrible."

What was also terrible was how a Columbia Studios executive forced Ireland to cut his foray into gay cinema, *The Velocity of Gary*, to shreds. "He didn't want it too rough, so I had to take scenes out," Ireland moans. He's especially distraught about the unseen footage of the characters winding up in Hell. "Yes," he continues, "you know, there was a real edge there. Your heart broke for these characters, and you really cared for them, but without those scenes, and maybe it's only me, the gravity of the film really lost something, and I sort of had three dislikable characters. Without them going to Hell, I never really felt that they were redeemed."

With Hell out of the way, the subject turns again to love and a potential mate, and Ireland is able to smile once again. "Yeah, I'm single," he asserts. "You know, I was with my friend for 6 years, and we broke up the day *The Whole Wide World* opened. I got devastated. It put me into a whole spin, and then I started seeing someone right after I shot *Gary*.

"You know, sometimes I really internalize my pain," he looks at me plaintively. "When I had to do what I did with *Gary*, I felt like I really killed it, and I went into this whole thing. In fact, I ended up one morning waking up having Bell's Palsy where the whole side of your face is..." Ireland starts beautifully acting out the disease, both vocally and physically: "My mouth was like that. My eye was like that. And it put me into this psychological tailspin, and even though I went with this person for 2 years, we ended up breaking up because it really messed me up. I had to learn a great healing process was 'letting go and moving on.' You should not internalize grief and pain so much, and I did.

"I don't do that anymore," Ireland grins, "but I haven't been in a relationship since. I've been kind of busy in a way, and I'm a great believer, Brandon, like when they happen, they happen. If you go looking for them, it never works. But I'd love to be in a relationship now."

So should I tell our readers to contact you?

"You bet, Baby. Here I am."

Any special things you are looking for? Height? Personality traits?

"You know what," Ireland insists, "somebody that's cool and fun to be with. I think that you get to a point in your life after you've gone for like 'body and being gorgeous,' there's something about being with somebody that you have a compatibility with. Someone you're comfortable with. Someone whom you can have fun with."

So Dom DeLuise has a chance with you?

"Oh, Baby, bring it on. Bring it on, Dom. As long as Dom can cut it between the sheets... If Dom can be Big Daddy, rock on!"

For those interested in contacting Mr. Ireland romantically, send your e-mail to: imnotcocteau@aol.com, and your missives will be forwarded. ▼

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FILM

Incendiary blonde

Gloria Grahame in 'The Big Heat'

by Tavo Amador

Of Hollywood's 1950s blondes, Marilyn Monroe was the most famous, Doris Day the most popular, Grace Kelly the most acclaimed, Kim Novak the most overlooked, and Gloria Grahame (1925-81) the most fascinating — and kinkiest. Her stardom was brief and ended with the decade, but her impact was memorable. One of her best movies — a *film noir* classic, Fritz Lang's *The Big Heat* (1953) — is now available on DVD.

A cop fatally shoots himself in his comfortable home in a fictional big city. His wife, Bertha Duncan (Jeannette Nolan), reads his suicide letter and realizes it will provide her a far greater pension than a police widow is entitled to. She calls mobster Mike Lagana (Alexander Scourby), tells him what has happened, secures her future, then phones the authorities. Bertha plays the grieving widow for the investigating officer, Dave Bannion (Glenn Ford), saying her husband had been depressed about his health, which may have driven him to kill himself. Bannion believes her, until he hears from the dead cop's mistress, who insists he was healthy and getting ready to leave his wife for her. Bertha admits her husband had affairs, but dismisses the girlfriend's claim that he wanted a divorce. Bannion is convinced, until the mistress is murdered.

His investigation leads to Lagana, who gives orders that he be iced. Unfortunately, his lively wife (Jocelyn Brando) is murdered instead. Outraged, Bannion quits the force and investigates Lagana on his own, eventually meeting his key henchman, Vince Stone (Lee Marvin), and Stone's flirtatious mistress, Debby Marsh (Grahame). The narcissistic Debby accepts Stone's pawing as her due — sex is what she has to offer, and she enjoys it. She's a woman who'll try anything once, and if it feels good, do it again. A confrontation between Bannion and Stone results in the latter storming out of a bar, leaving Debby behind. She befriends Bannion, is spotted doing so, and, when she returns to Stone's penthouse, he scalds her face with hot coffee, scarring her for life. Debby avenges herself while helping Bannion nail Lagana and company.

Lang's direction is taut and swift. Ford's inexpressiveness is quite effective — he's a man of action, not words. Marvin is excellent as the impulsive Stone, a true sadist. Scourby captures the upper-class pretensions of Lagana flawlessly, right down to being a loving father and son. Brando (Marlon's sister) conveys independence and intelligence, and Nolan's veneer of middle-class good manners hides Bertha's greed. But the acting honors go to Grahame, who creates a complex, conflicted, and courageous floozy, avoiding all the heart-of-gold clichés. From her first scene, it's clear to everyone but Stone she could be trouble — his libido is not the only thing she heats up. He pays a high price for his cruel obtuseness.

Grahame crackers

Grahame worked at MGM and RKO in the '40s, notably as the nascent hooker in Frank Capra's dreadful *It's a Wonderful Life* (1946), and scored a Best Supporting Actress Oscar nomination for the fine *Crossfire* (1947), an early look at murderous anti-Semitism (which replaced the book's homophobia). In 1950, her second husband, the bisexual Nicholas Ray, directed her and Bogart in another *noir* gem, *In a Lonely Place* — a sensational pairing. In 1952, she had four supporting roles in hit films: winning an Oscar as Dick Powell's cheating wife in Vincente Minnelli's *The Bad and the Beautiful;* tempting Charlton Heston in Cecil B. DeMille's ghastly Best Picture Academy Award winner, *The Greatest Show on Earth;* enticing Jack Palance to murder Joan Crawford in *Sudden Fear;* and visiting *Macao* with Robert Mitchum.

Next year brought *The Big Heat, The Glass Wall,* and another cheating wife (Frederic March's) in *Man on a Tightrope.* Lang reunited her and Ford for *.Of Human Desire* (1954), in which Broderick Crawford is the man she betrays. This was her peak, but true stardom eluded her. One magazine speculated that producers were "wary of her particular kind of explosive sex appeal." She was another adulterous wife in Minnelli's *The Cobweb* (1955), stealing the picture from Richard Widmark, Lauren Bacall, Charles Boyer, and Lillian Gish; and tempted Mitchum away from Olivia de Havilland in *Not as a Stranger* (1956). That same year, she was a charming if unlikely Ado Annie in *Oklahoma,* warbling "I'm Just a Girl Who Cain't Say 'No,'" and was a conventional (and less interesting) leading lady opposite Clifton Webb in *The Man Who Never Was.* A cheap Western, *Ride Out for Revenge* (1957), followed, then she memorably disrobed for Robert Ryan in *Odds Against Tomorrow* (1959), asking him how it felt to commit murder as the seduction begins.

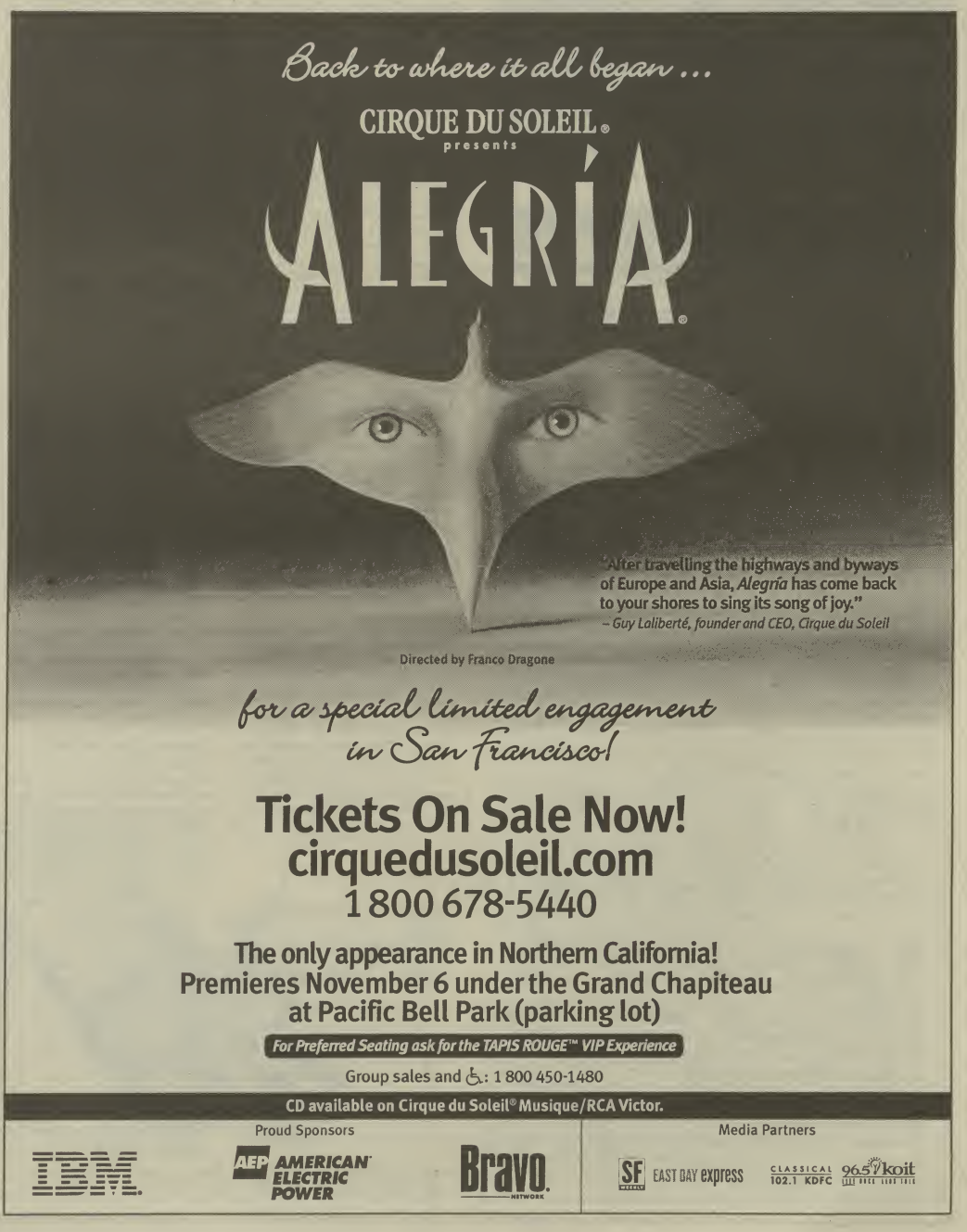
She had divorced Ray, wed and divorced again, then married Ray's son by his first wife — her former stepson — shocking Hollywood and effectively ending her movie career. She worked sporadically on television for 20 years, and in the 1970s got bit parts as Mary Steenburgen's mother in *Melvin and Howard,* and John Heard's crazy mom in *Chilly Scenes of Winter,* among others. She was working on stage in England when she was diagnosed with cancer, dying soon afterwards. She made only a handful of good films and few that spotlighted her, but she was unique and mesmerizing, and is unjustly forgotten by the general public. ▼



Grahame shocked all of Hollywood.







OUT&ABOUT



Sue Hamilton

George Weiss explores her inner self in *ManLady* at NCTC. See Wed.

Calendare by Mark Mardon

Let Davis serve

As an actor who has projected — around the globe, ad nauseum — some of the most violent images of America possible, **Arnold Schwarzenegger** deserves respect as a keen propagandist for destruction, mayhem, gore and death. Other than that, we know he cares about the kiddies and wants to make them feel all warm and comfortable and well taught, which is noble enough, but those same kiddies will grow up watching Arnold onscreen, slaughtering people and destroying property at will, and though it's all "fiction," the images will become an indelible part of their worldview. What Arnold really is teaching them is that to get ahead in life, you have to talk in monosyllables, carry a big gun, and use it repeatedly to clear your way of any and all nasties who bother you.

Arnold is the stuff of video games. If Californians recall incumbent **California Governor Gray Davis** — who after all was manly enough to beat off the vile Texans and other scumbags who robbed our state blind during the recent energy wars (remember the Enronite thieves who looted and pillaged and pissed on our state as **George W. Bush** and his oily cronies shrugged?) — and especially if the voters choose the Terminator as a replacement, then Californians will be proven the stupidest citizens of the United States, and will deserve their sorry fate. We'll all be inmates in the biggest insane-asylum in the world.

We would be more of a laughingstock than Minnesota, which bumbled along with **Jesse Ventura**, who wasn't half the bad-ass bodybuilder Arnold is, but whose brains were equally addled. Men will boast about how our guv could beat their guv. Governance in California's highest office will cease to be taken seriously, which of course is exactly what the Republicans orchestrating this recall want to see happen. They're spoiling the state to enrich themselves.

It's an open secret that the recall movement and the positioning of Schwarzenegger as a candidate are being orchestrated out of the White House by Bush senior adviser **Karl Rove**; the details have been reported in mainstream newspapers and websites, and discussed on countless blogs, notably *mediawhoresonline.com* and *buzzflash.com*. Be wary. Be very wary.

The recall is a power grab by the same gang who just brought us the most disreputable war in American history. Worse than Vietnam! The lies have been endless. It's all a continuation of what should-be President **Al Gore** calls the "totalistic ideology" being pursued by the Neo-Cons who currently mislead our nation.

I wanted to be funny, and urge you to vote for **Gary Coleman** for governor; and thoughtful in urging you to consider progressive columnist **Arianna Huffington** for the governor's chair; but honestly, this recall is no joke. These Neo-Con guys are serious. We should be too, about keeping Gray Davis in office, if only because those nasties in the White House are gunnin' for us, and we have no choice but to defend ourselves. ▼

Fri 15

'Afternoon of a Form' @ Shotwell Studios

Courage Group, in collaboration with Alma Esperanza Cunningham Movement abnd Joe Landini, presents "Afternoon of a Form," an eclectic evening of dance that covers the spectrum of contemporary ballet to post-modern dance theatre. "Afternoon of a Form" is a new quintet inspired by a multi-disciplinary collaboration between choreographer Todd Courage and architect Bill Bloomfield. Courage also presents "Uns," a duet based on the path from adversity to the formation of unexpected alliances, and "Three Systems of Disorganization," an abstract trio exploring the surreal relationship between dreams and reality. Joe Landini offers excerpts from a larger work to be presented at the Laban Center in London, UK. 8pm. Also Aug. 16, 22 & 23. Shotwell Studios, 3252 19th St. Tix/info: 621-3066; toddcourage@yahoo.com

'Kilt' @ New Conservatory Theatre Center

Preview: NCTC Pride Season 9 — *Landscape of Desire* presents the West Coast Premiere of the romantic comedy *Kilt*, by Jonathan Wilson. Directed by Stephen Rupsch (*PINS*). It's the story of a mother and son coming to know themselves and how to love each other. The traditional apparel of Scottish males is the link that fuses past and present. In the past, the kilt belonged to a young Glaswegian soldier. In the present, it has become the property of that soldier's grandson who wears it as a gimmick to spice up his performances as "Tartan Tom," an exotic dancer at a gay bar. When the old soldier dies, mother and son must journey to Scotland for final farewells and reconciliations. $18-$38. Previews thru Aug. 22, Wed-Sat at 8pm; Sun Aug. 17 at 2pm. Run Aug. 23 (Sat.)-Oct. 12, Wed-Sat at 8pm. 25 Van Ness Ave. (at Market). Tix/info: 861-8972; *www.nctcsf.org*

Plethora Comedy Troupe @ The Marsh

Plethora Comedy Troupe presents "Plethora: Dejaville Revisited." Featuring Paul Braverman, Rey Domingo, Stefanie Goldstein, Robin Hathaway, Lara Kehoe, Sara Santiago, Zack Stern, & Joseph Tally. Directed by Lara Kehoe. $10-$15 sliding. 10pm. The Marsh, 1062 Valencia St (at 22nd St). Info: 826-5750.

Uphill Both Ways @ Shelton Theatre

Uphill Both Ways, one of SF's newest and edgiest sketch comedy ensembles, presents its 11th Sketch Comedy Revue, "Salsa with Chopsticks." Produced by Comedy on the Square. The Uphill troupe has assembled some of their favorite sketches from their past ten revues. The material, developed at Theatre Spanganga, offers sketches ranging from the topical (The Sovereign Nation of Tablelandia) to the silly (the life stages of the Northern California Fruit Fly); from the absurd (the adventures of Slow Motion and his friend Sam) to the all to real (four ladies from Pacific Heights driving SUVs and talking on cellphones). Other sketch adventures will include the new Broadway musical, West Bank Story; a battle between ventriloquists; a gay couple shopping at a hardware store, and how to overcome boredom at your company's annual meeting. $15. Show dates & times: Friday, Aug. 15 at 10pm, Sun., Aug. 17 at 8:30pm; Fri., Aug. 22 at 10pm; Sun., Aug. 24 at 8:30pm; and Sun., Aug. 31 at 8:30pm. Shelton Theater, 533 Sutter St. (at Powell). Tix/info: 522-8900;*www.ticketweb.com; www.uphillbothways.com*

'Fascinating Rhythms' @ Cowell Theater

Metronome Ballroom presents its 3rd annual student-teacher dance showcase, "Fascinating Rhythms," directed by Julie Lowe, former principal dancer with the Oakland Ballet Company. Featuring a cast of more than 50 dancers from students to pros. Witness a dazzling variety of dance styles including Argentine Tango, Salsa, Cha-Cha, Waltz, Ballroom, Brazilian Samba, Foxtrot and Swing. Live music by the Metrotones, an all-female jazz vocal quartet (with Joe Brigandi on drums, Kendall Ross-Bean on piano, and Fred Randolph on bass). Starring the electrifying pair of Melissa Rutz and Arjay Centeno (West Coast Swing), Ballroom artists Alise Halbert and Richard Lamberty, Argentine Tango dancer/teacher Christy Cote, World Exhibition Champion Tom Slater and more. $25 adv; $30 door. 8pm. Also on Aug. 16. Fort Mason Center. Tix: 345-7575. Info: *metronomeballroom.com*

Sat 16

'Hep Hop for Homos' @ Synergy

Queer Swing presents The Hep Hop (Swing Dance) for Homos & Queers. Join the other Hipsters & Hepcats for an evening of Swingin' fun that includes free dance lessons, fabulous tunes, and plenty of cool chicks & fellas. Learn some swing basics & the collegiate shag! This is a super fun older dance (pre-dating the lindy hop) that was really popular in the 20s & 30s. Free dance lessons. No partner necessary. 7:30-8:30 Beginning Swing; 8:30-9:30 Beginning Collegiate Shag. 9:30-12 midnight Open Dancing. $7 - $10 sliding scale. Synergy, 1387 Valencia Street (at 25th St). Info: *www.queerswing.com*

Grupo Socio Cultural Hispano

This social group for all Bay Area gay men — regardless of Spanish-speaking ability — holds its monthly potluck get-together in San Francisco tonight. Info: 821-4670.

'Opium' @ Soluna Cafe

New party: "Opium," featuring a hot crowd at a posh location. Music by DJs Matt Valenz and David Harness. Full screen for visuals. Ferocious bar.



Liz Payne

Alma Esperanza Cunningham, Todd Courage, and Joe Landini dance in *Afternoon of a Form* at Shotwell Studios. See Friday.



Precious Moments aka Rhoda Hell performs in DragStrip's "Burning Woman/Flaming Queen" at Great American Music Hall. See Thursday.

Proceeds benefit the Tenderloin AIDS Resource Center (TARC). 9pm-last call. 21+w/ID. 272 McAllister (at Larkin). Info: 621-2200; *solunasf.com*

Sun 17

'Ultra Ultra Violet' @ 1015 Folsom

Glow with The Playa Fairies at "Ultra Ultra Violet," a fundraiser for the Burning Man "Fairyland" camp, produced by Ggreg Taylor ("The Forgotten Opera," "Product"). Featuring custom art and installations by the crew of artists who will be doing Ultraviolet Artwork at the camp. DJs Ellen Ferrato ("Sugar") and Drag-n'fly (the coolest Burning Man parties) spin in the main room. In the front upstairs lounge: Ouchy the Clown and Pinky Ring spin indie, bootleg mash-ups, and hip hop, and Ken Vulsion spins ambient. Day-Glo dress encouraged. $15 adv, $20 door. 6pm-midnight. Tix at Café Flore (Market & Noe), Body Body Wear (535 Castro), and Costumes on Haight (Haight at Pierce). Info: *ggreg.com*

SF Hiking Club @ Portola Redwoods

Join other outdoors lovers for a Portola Redwoods State Park Hike. Walk among quiet redwoods to the famous Peter's Grove — an island of old-growth redwoods formed by year-round streams edged with sorrel and tiger lilies. It's a moderate 12-mile hike with a 1,200-ft. elevation gain. Meet 8:30am under the large Safeway sign at Market & Dolores sts. Info: 487-6410; *www.sfhiking.com*

John McCullough @ The Plush Room

Josephine Caffese Lott and Rick St. John present John McCullough in "Beautiful Ballads and More," an afternoon of live cabaret music to benefit Shanti. Songs will range from Grand Opera to the Grand Ol' Oprey. McCullough, who has made his mark as a vocalist in SF in less than three years, is joined by Christian Bohm, the Assistant Artistic Director and Principal Accompanist for the SF Gay Men's Chorus; Houston Allred, a versatile Broadway and cabaret performer; and Leanne Borghes, with credits stretching coast-to-coast from musical theater to cabaret; William Morín, a singer, guitarist and composer from NYC; and Coloratura Soprano Diana Pray, who has performed with Bay Shore Lyric Opera, Pocket Opera, Solo Opera, Opera non Troppo, and this fall she joins the chorus of SF Opera. $25 + 2-drink minimum. 3-5pm. York Hotel, 940 Sutter St. Tix/info: 885-2800. Info: *shanti.org*

'Hubbub' @ Hyena Playhouse

Larry-bob hosts "Hubbub: Queer Spoken Word," with featured reader Gwendolyn Bikis, author of the novel *Your Loving Arms*. Her writing has also appeared in the 1998 and 2000 editions of *Best Lesbian Erotica*. Open-mic follows (bring pieces of prose, poetry or whatever of not more than five minutes total to read). Host Larry-bob has published the queer zine *Holy Titclamps* since 1989, and produces the weekly email list of non-mainstream events "Queer Things To Do In San Francisco." This is the eighth of a new monthly series of spoken-word events. $3 (NOTAFLOF). Signup at 2:30pm; reading at 3pm.

Suite #305 (new room, same building), 2390 Mission St. Info: 541-5610; *www.holytitclamps.com/hubbub*

'Truth is Fiction' @ Rite Spot Cafe

The Rite Spot Café presents "Truth is Fiction: Writers at the Rite Spot," with short stories and non-fiction by Roger Pinnell, Jutta Breedlove, and Larry-bob, plus musical interlude by Carlos Guitarlos (*Straight from the Heart*, Nomad Records). $3. 7pm. 2099 Folsom St. (at 17th St). Info: *www.ritespotcafe.com*

Mon 18

'One Night Only Cabaret' @ Teatro ZinZanni

The Richmond/Ermet AIDS Foundation present the "One Night Only Cabaret" under the tent at Teatro ZinZanni. Featuring company members from the Broadway touring cast of *The Phantom of the Opera*, with cast members from Teatro ZinZanni's "Love, Chaos and Dinner." Join company members of both casts for an outrageous evening of music, comedy and dance. Cast will include Phantom star Lisa Vroman and Teatro star Sandra Reaves-Phillips, the New York City blues diva, among others. Proceeds benefit Broadway Cares/Equity Fights AIDS and The Richmond/Ermet AIDS Foundation $35 and $50 (add $25 for reception with the cast following the show). 7:30pm. Tix/info: 415-273-1620; *www.helpisontheway.org*.

Tue 19

Susan Leal @ The Center

"An Evening With Susan Leal," candidate for Mayor of San Francisco. This public forum is intended to provide members of our community with an opportunity to meet the candidate, ask questions, and gather information to help you make a more informed decision at the ballot box. Hosted by the Bay Area Community of Women and the LGBT Center. Open to the public. Suggested donation $5-$10 (to cover event costs). No one turned away for lack of funds. 7-9pm. Ceremonial Room LGBT Center 1800 Market St. (at Octavia). Info: 865-5630; bacw@bacw.org

'Trannyshack' @ The Stud

Jason El Diablo presides over "Disco Bloodbath," a tribute to the early '90s Club Kids and party promoter/murderer Michael Alig. $6. 10pm-3am (show at midnight). 9th & Harrison. Info: *www.heklina.com*

Wed 20

'Spanked' @ NCTC

Preview: NCTC Pride Season 9 — *Landscape of Desire* presents *Spanked!* Written, performed, and co-produced with NCTC by Ian Mackinnon and Aaron Hartzel. Directed by Jacob Titus. It's hard to "beat" a play that uses spanking as a metaphor to embody the paradoxes of a sexual relationship, with its intertwined affection, lust and shame. While the physical act of spanking is at the core of the play, this nuanced work serves as an autobiographical portrait of the romance between its stars. $15-$20 ($120-$280 season tix). Previews Aug. 20 & 21 at 8pm. Runs Aug. 22 (Fri.)-Sept. 14, Wed-Sat, at 8pm.



www.beatboxevents.com/gallery/robot1/jasoneldiablo

Jason El Diablo hosts "Disco Bloodbath" at Trannyshack. See Tuesday

Matinees Aug. 24 & 31, Sept. 7 & 14, Sun. at 2pm. Tix/info: 861-8972; *www.nctcsf.org*

'ManLady' @ NCTC

Preview: NCTC Pride Season 9 — *Landscape of Desire* presents *ManLady*. Written and performed by George Weiss Vando. Directed by Sue Hamilton. Produced in association with SHE Productions. Direct from a smash engagement in LA, *ManLady* is an investigation of gender and identity, breaking down queer misogyny from inside out and offering a new image of masculinity. A young boy grows up, puts on heels, falls in love and is rejected. In the end he accepts himself and redefines what it is to be a *ManLady*. The show layers movement, poetry and narrative story-telling in order to confess a deeply personal journey. $18-$28. Previews Aug. 20-22 at 8pm. Runs Aug. 23 (Sat.)-Sept. 7, Wed-Sat at 8pm. Matinees Aug. 24 & 31, Sept. 7, Sun. at 2pm.

Kirk Read @ ACWLP for Books

Kirk Read, author of *How I Learned to Snap*, winner of an American Library Association award. The book is a funny take on a rock-and-roll fag who came out in high school in the small town south. Free. 7pm. Opera Plaza, 600 Van Ness Ave. (at McAllister).

Thu 21

'Can You Entirely Be?' @ 848 Community Space

Dancer/climber Karl Gillick, dancer Rosemary Hanon, and dancer/choreographer Ralf Jaroschinski improvise movement to music improvised by Sean Feit, as well as the painting of Lino Laure. Inspired by the teachings of Jon Bernie. $10-$15 sliding. 8pm. 848 Community Space, 848 Divisadero. Info: r.jaroschinski@gmx.de

'Burning Woman/Flaming Queen' @ Great American Music Hall

DragStrip presents "Burning Woman/Flaming Queen," offering pre-Burning Man revelry with performers who are on fire! Starring tranny-rock super-band Pepperspray (*pepperspray-band.com*), drag sensations Juanita More! (*juanitamore.com*), Glamamore, Putanesca, Fudgie Frottage, Arty Fishal, and Acid Housewife featuring Trauma Flintstone, Mark Sargeant, Roderick McFarland & David Bicha. M.C.'s: Arturo Galster and Anita Cocktail (*anitacocktail.com*). $10 advance, $12 door. Reserved seating available w/ dinner. 8:30pm doors; show starts at 9pm. GAMH, 859 O'Farrell (btwn Polk and Larkin). Tix: GAMH and Slim's Box Office, or *www.virtuous.com* and *www.tickets.com*. DragStrip hotline: 282-5378

"Make Art or DIY Trying" @ Spanganga Gallery

"Make Art Happen or DIY Trying," an independent artist how-to workshop series, moderated by Michael Vavricek. Tonight's topic: "Being Seen as a Visual Artist." A look into creative ways to get your art shown and known. Panelists: renegade toy designer Attaboy (*yumfactory.com*) whose art is shown at galleries on both coasts and in Japan and whose Super Action Nub Nub toy line has just been launched worldwide, to be followed by a Secret Scheme Book Journal, Candy Coated Eyesore Stationary, and more; Charles Gatewood (*charlesgatewood.com*), a writer, video artist and "family photographer of America's sexual underground" who has produced a dozen books and 40+ feature videos; and Jessica, who received her undergrad degree in photography and sociology from UC Santa Cruz and is returning for her MFA at the SF Art Institute this fall. She has been exhibited throughout the Bay Area and West Coast. $5. 6:30-8:30pm. 3376 19th St. (at Mission).



www.solunasf.com/pictures/pichome.htm

Revelers at "Opium" transform the posh Soluna Cafe into a seething Den of Inequity replete with a hot clientele and sexy tunes. See Saturday.

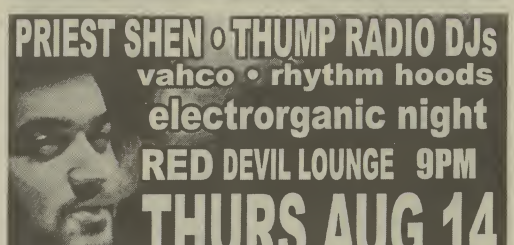
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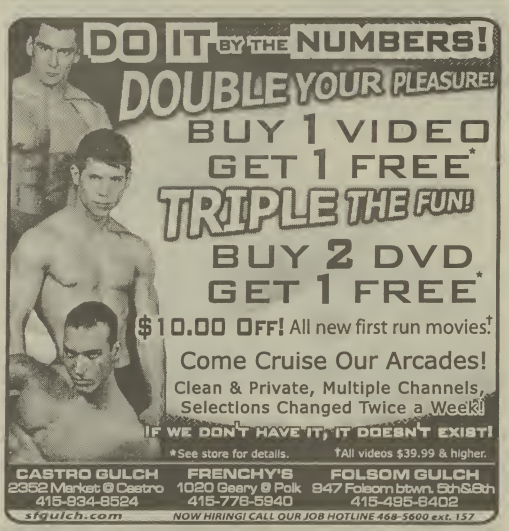
Send your calendar event listings to:

Mark Mardon
Out & About
Bay Area Reporter
395 Ninth Street
San Francisco, CA 94103

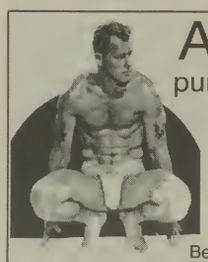
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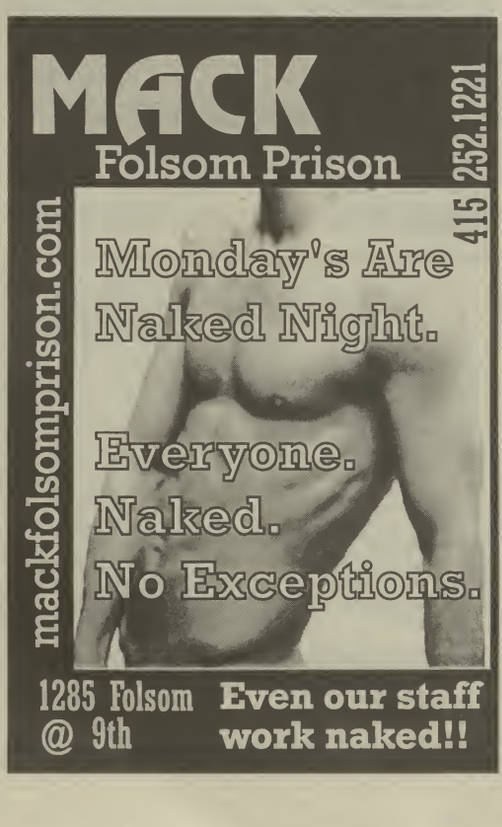




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The Goddess rules!

Goddess Lakshimi is Ms. World Leather

by Mister Marcus

Bedlam reigned in the Radisson Hotel on Mockingbird Lane in Dallas, last Sunday, August 10 as Goddess Lakshimi of Detroit was announced the winner of the Ms. World Leather 2003 title. The first runner-up was Mallarca of Chicago. The whole weekend was beautifully synchronized and on a scale of 1 to 10 was way over 10.

Of the seven women competing, all had compelling platforms dealing with drug abuse, breast cancer, health care, and various other causes.

The "different kind of contest for a different kind of woman" was packed to the rafters all weekend with all kinds of folks. Men, women, bisexuals, transgenders, boi and boy groups, daddies, mommies and bears cavorted in the hot and humid temperatures of Dallas which included a couple of thunderstorms.

There were dungeon parties, cigar parties, private parties for both men and women, a fabulous brunch on Sunday, a meet-&-greet at the Dallas Eagle, an open interview session, and a "crossfire" press conference that was the true test of leadership and control and handling the press under pressure.

The seven contestants were "Dutchess," Goddess Lakshimi, "Millarca," Miss Julia, Ms. Elise, Pat Tucker and "Slavette" Parker. They faced judges Viola Johnson, Karen McGee, Bill Brewer, Victoria Gayton, Jim Richards, Kim Sontag, Skip Hipshier and Val Langmiur.



Mister Marcus

Goddess Lakshimi of Detroit, Michigan was chosen Ms. World Leather 2003 in the 3rd annual competition in Dallas, Texas on Sunday, August 9. She won over six other women. She shares her moment of victory with runner-up "Mallarca" from Chicago.

All the contestants were well versed in the subject matter of their platform(s), and in the interviews and the poster contest, and especially in the "Crossfire" press conference — probably the toughest category in the entire competition — they ably justified their support for their positions.



Tim Wong, the Wizard of all Tally Masters, instituted a new scoring system: all the judges entered their scores on a Palm Pilot, and the numbers were downloaded onto a computer spreadsheet. Lightning fast and precluding reams of paper, the results were whipped out almost immediately. After each category, a print-out of each judges' scores were given to them for verification. In the end, each contestant got a full summary of all their scores including notations made by the judges for each. Amazing!

While all this was going on, Pitchfork Productions, which had a documentary crew following three of the contestants throughout the process, were filming the event for "Eye on the Prize," to be aired on cable VH-1 at a future date. The crew were understanding, compassionate, efficient and professional with all concerned. I'll let you know when it airs.

At one point in the proceedings, Ms. Jill Carter announced her stepping aside as President of

next page ▶

EVENTURES IN LEATHER

Friday, August 15

SF Exiles present a panel of femme dykes who will expound on their experiences as "Girls" at the Women's Bldg. Doors open 1930, program at 2000. It will cost $3 members and $6 for guests.

Weekend, August 16-18

Southern California Leather Sir/boy competition in San Diego with most of the action at the Hole. Meet & Greet on Friday, contest on Saturday and victory brunch on Sunday. Produced by Graylin Thornton.

Saturday, August 16

At around 2100, Mr. SF Leather and Mr. Powerhouse Leather 2003, Troy Anicete, will step aside from his Powerhouse title when the contest for Mr. Powerhouse Leather 2004 takes place. Don't miss this one!

Celebration of the life of Tony Koester's boy, Chris at 1400 at Metropolitan Community Church. We grieve with Tony at his tragic loss and offer sincere condolences.

Sunday, August 17

Golden Gate Guards host the beer/'soda bust at the Eagle from 1500-1800 today with the usual fare, boozin' and cruisin'.

Weekend, August 22-24

Leather/Levi Weekend at beautiful Saratoga Springs, for novices, newbies and veterans of the leather/bdsm community. It's sold out already, and a good time will be had by all.

In Seattle, the Northwest Regional Leather Sir/boy competition takes place for yet another candidate for the international title competition in St. Petersburg, Florida in October. Gene Romaine and Mark Nunley are the sponsors.

In Indianapolis, the Great Lakes Leather Alliance holds forth with 5 contests and a plethora of workshops, dungeon parties and leather galore in this great Midwest City.

Wednesday, August 27

The first ever Mr. Loading Dock Leather 2004 contest at that bar tonight at 2100. Ray Tilton is producing it and has a great panel of judges and contestants lined up.

Leather Buddies at 933 Harrison tonight. Doors 2100-2300, and a leather dress code is strictly enforced. Unclear? Call 777-HEAD.

Weekend, August 30-September 1

It's Labor Day weekend and in San Francisco that means SF Leather Daddy's Boy at the Eagle on Sunday, 1500-1800.

In Philadelphia, it's the Philadelphians MC weekend run with a $125 fee and the theme is "State Fair". You know Ryan Goldner will come up with some crazy ideas. For info, email to: statefair2003@hotmail.com.

Gods and monsters

by John F. Karr

Sins of the Father is a slightly pallid example of the porn genre we call "The Priapic Priest." Nonetheless, it teaches us much about the Church. Did you know that neither clergyman nor altar boy wears a stitch beneath his cassock? Neither a sanctified jockstrap nor even rosary cockring. Just: *nada*. Perhaps this is peculiar to the South of the Border parish depicted in *Sins of the Father:* it's hot down there!

The dusty rural setting elicits the movie's best contribution in JD Slater's music, which trades porn's usual throb for some romantically tinged Spanish guitar. The locale also allows us to peruse an entirely Spanish cast, from the near-virginal youth of Rico Suave and Dario, to the adult hunger of fuckbunny Carlo Cox and gnarled muscularity of Diego Alvarez. Still, I don't believe it's tropical torpor that has de-energized this bunch, but the slack direction of Rafael, who was also the videographer and editor. Both the setting and the sacrilege should engender sizzle, but this one just plods along.

The movie is laid out as a series of flashbacks. As Father Luciano fingers his beads, the Cardinal reads them. He spells out Luciano's transgressions, which the horny priest recalls. The Cardinal relates how several other priests indulged their flesh, thus satisfying somebody's need for tales of priestly philandering while setting us up for the movie's nod to contemporary morals. When he's finished doling out details that are surprisingly explicit for a Cardinal's repertoire of tales, he tells us what happened to the others: they were excommunicated. As is Father Luciano now. *El Fin,* as it says on the screen.

But not before we've seen the confessional used as a glory hole, the purification of acolytes necessitating a laying on of hands rather than a blessing, and a troubled parishioner receiving solace up the bum from a trio of gang-banger padres. You'll go to *Sins of the Father* for a taste of foreskin — well, actually, the overhang in this one is more like a complete meal — and for the brief glimpses Rafael allows us of a pair of two- and three-man fuck-chains.



Courtesy of All Worlds Video

(L to r:) Danny Lopez, Nick Piston and Steve Cannon in *Sand Gods*

One last thing. When spelling out Luciano's engagement of the seven sins, the Cardinal says that in Greek times, there were originally eight. Which informed reader can name for us that eighth sin?



Karrnal Knowledge

Tilt-a-whirl

The accomplished director Andre Adair, in *Sand Gods,* brings us four scenes related only by their desert setting and the success the director has had in translating its warmth and immediacy to his engaging performers. The movie's skillfully constructed, with scenes complementing each other as we're led from the opening's passionless though scenic pairing, to passionate couple, urgent couple, and finally out-and-out threeway frenzy.

The first scene is enlivened by attractive youth Trent Austin, whose slight body is home to a decidedly not slight cock: it's fat and bulgingly-headed. It's as exciting as the lad's smiling enthusiasm. How he relishes sex, even when making out with Brad Rock, a sveltely built and heavy-bonered young man whose continually closed eyes and near lack of reciprocity suggest he's thinking of his girlfriend. Still, Trent worships him gladly from long dong to succulent asshole. Their glamour pair of cocks are marveled at from eye-opening angles, and Rock skewers the happy Trent for quite a whirl.

The desert heat is magnified when lean and butch Joe Foster makes out with pretty-faced Chris Bolt beneath a majestic Joshua Tree. They make out slow and thoroughly, with the payoff of topman Foster's sturdy grind being more the deep connection of two men than an assault of one against the other. Beneath the same tree, Jack London and Sebastian Cole ratchet up the urgency factor while adding a romantic touch, kissing and holding each other tightly as they fuck. I should also drop buzzwords like fat bazookas and bunches of foreskin.

The no-holds finale is a capper. Boyish Danny Lopez is a good foil for the blue-collar appeal of Nick Piston. Though his heavy cock is a scene-stealer, it's vying for attention with Steve Cannon: a real sexslut with handsome cock, florid ink, shaved crotch and Prince Albert. Piston's pretty nasty, though, and things take on an edge when he mounts acquiescent Lopez, and get even edgier when sleazer Cannon takes his turn as bottom, enabling a five-star finale when Piston pistons some highflying pizzazz outa him. Atmospheric soundscaping, sensually rhythmic music and assured videography and editing add to the appeal of *Sand Gods.* Both films, *www.allworldsvideo.com; (800) 537-8024* ▼

Mister Marcus

◀ previous page

the Ms. World Leather organization, and Annie Romano-Blas will take the helm for the coming year, along with some new board members added.

The endowment check for Goddess Lakshimi amounted to almost $8,000, and the basket auction brought in a hefty sum. The Exiles of SF added almost $900 to the pot. The winner's charitable work will focus on breast cancer, an issue chosen by Goddess Lakshimi because it was brought close to home when her own mother was diagnosed with the disease. At the victory toast party at the Eagle after the contest, hundreds of dollars were pushed into her hands as she reiterated, quite vociferously, her plea for support.

The volunteers in all areas worked to exhaustion, and it all came off beautifully with absolutely no glitches in staging, workshops, sound, lighting and registration. Hats off to all of those who pitched in to make it a stunning weekend! If you weren't there, you missed a great time! Even the men who were there admit it was a sterling adventure. See you there next year?

The second 'gay plague'

In spite of all the agencies that deal with drug, alcohol, tobacco and bare-backing, it seems to fall on deaf ears. I am not preaching here, but expressing my dismmay that educated, grown men with successful jobs, careers, marriages and all-around good lives continue to fall under the deadly spell of drugs.

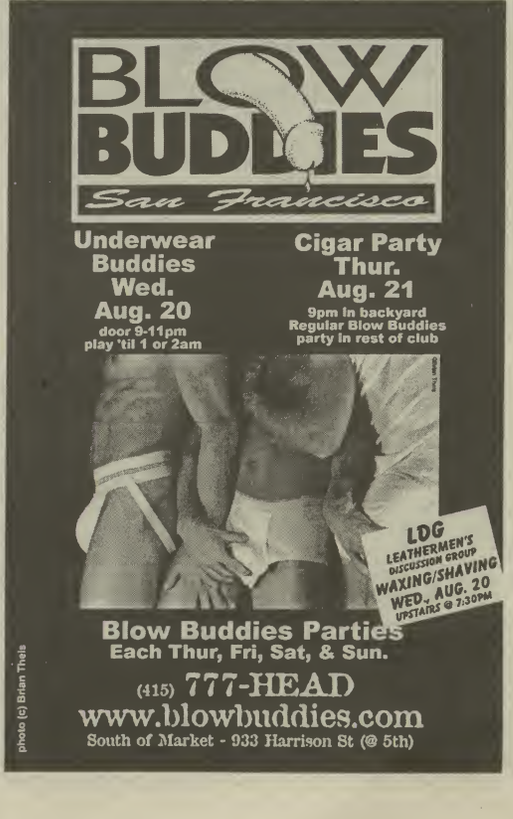
Over the weekend, yet another productive member of the leather community was fatally done in because of drug use. The person in question had been clean and sober for a long time and was recently honored at a leather event. It makes one wonder what triggers these spates of "falling off the wagon." These people fail to take into consideration that we are all here to help, support and laud their successes in kicking the habit. Yet, in a moment of weakness, stress or whatever reason, their decision to "try it one more time" is their last time.

So many beautiful, talented, productive and astute people have been lost because of drugs. One of the Ms. World contestants is vehement in her goal to "educate" all of us because she has lost two close friends to drug overdoses.

The time is now. We can no longer ignore this second "gay plague," and we must step up to the plate to eradicate it. What makes everyone's blood boil is that our own gay brothers and/or sisters are promoting drugs, dealing and spreading death to users. If anyone has a plan, solution or impetus to help with the problem, I'd like to hear about it. ▼







How much is too much?

The Terminator, Kobe Bryant, Ashton Kutcher: are we having fun yet?

by Victoria A. Brownworth

If you liked the nonstop TV coverage of Florida, Nov. 2000, you'll love the sequel: California, Oct. 2003. California recall madness has become the surprise hit summer reality show. Providing the most fodder for TV news, comics, late-night hosts, newsmagazines and morning shows since Monica met Bill, it's the *WWF Slapdown* meets *Face the Nation.*

Entertainment or politics — or both? On *Nightline,* UC Berkeley Professor Kevin Starr said Californians have conflated celebrity mania with voter outrage. Yes, but to what end? Imagining Miss Pink or the Terminator running the state (Anarchy vs. Fascism) makes Gray Davis look sublime, and it's hard to laugh at the nightly jabs by Leno and Letterman. On TV, Arnold Schwarzenegger, Arianna Huffington, Peter Uberoff, Gary Coleman, Larry Flynt and hundreds of other less-notables jockey for position in the recall race. Call it *Survivor: Sacramento.*

Starr has it right. Where else but in a TV-obsessed America would a purportedly serious candidate for Governor of the world's sixth-largest economy announce on late-night TV, as Schwarzenegger did on *The Tonight Show?* Just two days earlier, Sen. Hillary Clinton had been on Leno herself. Asked about the recall debacle, with characteristic pragmatism she suggested putting the millions to be spent on a recall toward the state's massive debt instead. She also noted that if the recall was successful, the "new guy" would inherit all the same problems Davis has and then some, with Californians no better off.



Lavender Tube

Leon Panetta noted on *Nightline* (after explaining why he, an actual qualified California Democrat, *wasn't* running) that once a recall effort is successful, the "genie is out of the bottle," and every unpopular action by an elected official will be greeted with petitions for his or her ouster. Memo to Darrell Issa, now out of the race and a few million less rich: Be careful what you wish for.

Eagle eyed

Before the Terminator all but closed the voting for California's next Governor, the nation's most populous state was already making negative TV news with that other larger-than-life Californian, LA Lakers' Kobe Bryant. Appearing everywhere from Fox's *Teen Choice Awards,* where he made standing trial for rape sound like fighting apartheid ("Injustice anywhere is injustice everywhere"), to the courtroom in Eagle, Colorado, where he was formally charged and his preliminary hearing date set for two days after the California recall election (at least he'll be home to vote), Bryant tried to keep his TV profile positive.

The TV blitz of the Bryant case is reminiscent of the OJ Simpson trial. The one truly squeaky-clean figure in the NBA, where players' crimes range from the non-felonious avoidance of child support payments to aggravated assault and even murder, Bryant's alleged forcible rape of a 19-year-old concierge at the ritzy Eagle resort is nothing less than tragic. Legal experts, prosecutors and defenders, debate the case almost daily on TV. And TV was where Bryant made his own case for innocence, in a tearful press conference both sincere and self-protective. Claiming the sin of adultery rather than the crime of rape, Bryant, flanked by his gorgeous wife and white female attorney, managed to appear a victim, if only of his own ill-managed desires.

TV reporters and NBA members repeatedly raise the question of whether or not Bryant can get a fair trial in predominantly white Eagle, which helps skew the case pre-trial. But fans surrounded the courthouse at his hearing and cheered him, waving signs of support. A question better posed is whether or not the alleged *victim* can get a fair trial.

Since the case first hit the news several weeks ago, TV has become the medium to vilify and smear the alleged victim. Eager for TV face-time, former classmates of the young woman (an A-student, cheerleader and member of her church choir) have been peppering the evening news, morning shows and newsmagazines, making outrageous statements. One girl said after Bryant's hearing that she had "gone to school with [the alleged victim] for nine years," and although she didn't know her, she had "heard" that she was "really easy." Others in the town suggested that if the alleged victim went to Bryant's room, then whatever happened was her fault.

TV news should be above such sleazy "reportage," even if tabloid TV is not. But in celebrity-obsessed, TV-driven America, Bryant's celebrity supersedes the gravity of the allegations against him. Weeks were spent investigating the allegations against Bryant prior to his being formally charged, yet TV coverage has presented the alleged victim as the real suspect, guilty until *she* is proven innocent. TV reporters refer to her as "Bryant's accuser" rather than the standard legal and journalistic term of "alleged victim," further skewing perspective. Add in repeated video of Bryant in glory poses — giving a jersey to President Bush, receiving various awards — and it is trial by innuendo against the alleged victim.

Trial by innuendo has become a TV news standard since the Clinton scandals. If TV cameras hadn't been present at the Episcopal Conference of Bishops last week in Minneapolis when Rev. Gene Robinson became the first openly gay bishop in the Episcopal Church, would the last-minute charges of sexual impropriety have been made? Robinson was cleared, but how much taint accrued to him unfairly because of heightened TV coverage of the events? The day after his appointment, the morning shows continued to ask him about the allegations, the tone of the questions still suspicious. One morning host even asked if he would approach the man who accused him again.

Heightened queer visibility accruing from shows like the Bravo hit *Queer Eye for the Straight Guy* and the sweet but unexciting *Boy Meets Boy* does not mean Majority America is softening toward queers, no matter what *TV Guide* suggests. Anyone watching the vitriolic response to the almost saintly Robinson (he told *GMA* he felt it was important to be subdued in his celebration because his appointment as bishop was so painful for so many other Episcopalians!) is witnessing homophobia alive and well, high ratings for the wildly entertaining *Queer Eye* be damned. (VCR alert: NBC is running the show tonight following *Will & Grace.*)

Finally, to end on a much lighter note, the adorable Britney Murphy, former girlfriend of *That 70s Show* star Ashton Kutcher who is now bedding Demi Moore (she's 40something, he's 20something), blurted out on the August 7 Letterman, "I guess the crux of that relationship is that for him, age doesn't matter, and for her, size doesn't matter." Talk about trial by innuendo! Stay tuned. ▼



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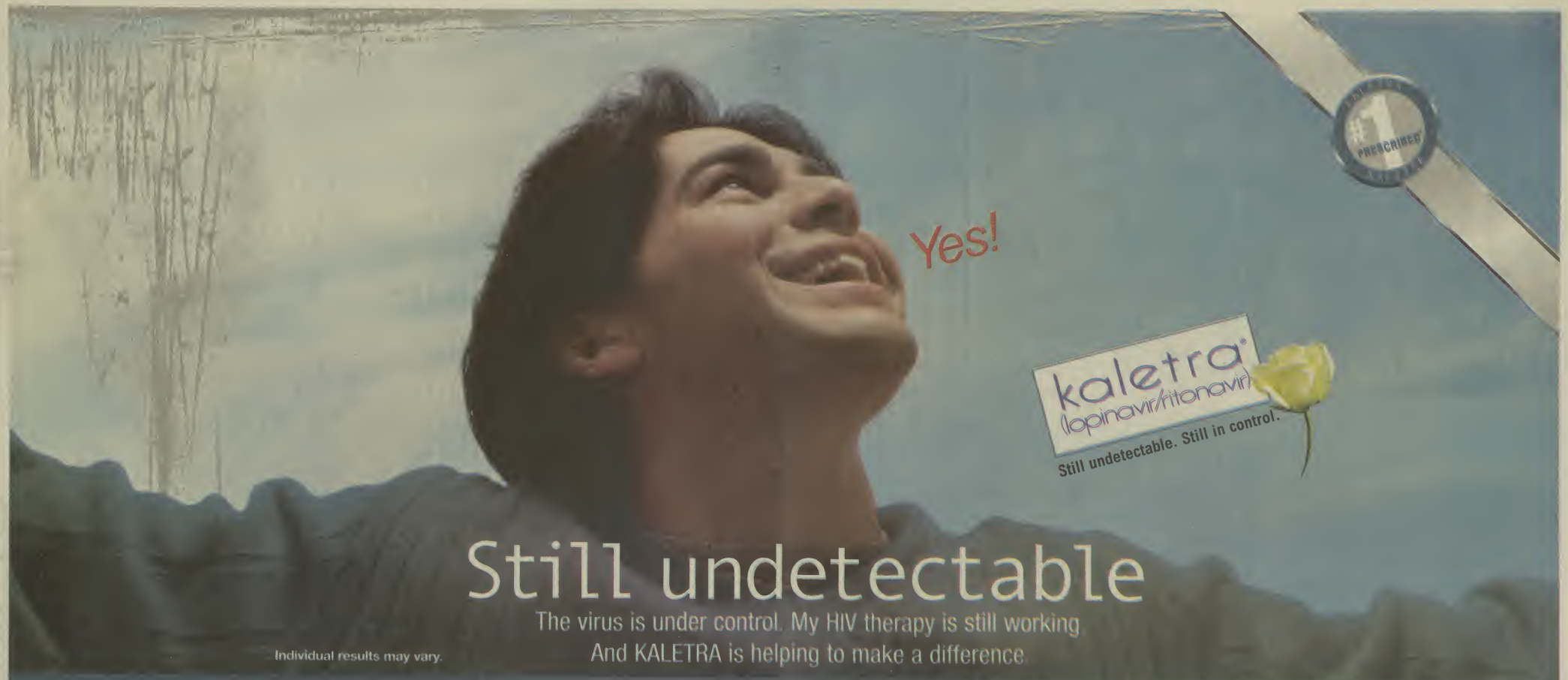
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Safety Information

Taking KALETRA with certain drugs could create potential for serious and/or life-threatening side effects. KALETRA should not be taken with Halcion®, Hismanal®, Orap®, Propulsid®, Rythmol®, Seldane®, Tambocor™, Versed®, Rimactane®, Rifadin®, Rifater®, Rifamate®, Mevacor®, Zocor®, ergot derivatives or products containing St. John's wort (*Hypericum perforatum*). Discuss all medicines, including those without a prescription, and herbal preparations you are taking or plan to take with your doctor or pharmacist. KALETRA should not be taken if you have had an allergic reaction to KALETRA or any of its ingredients.

Pancreatitis and liver problems, which can be fatal, have been reported. Tell your doctor if you have or have had liver disease such as hepatitis. In patients taking protease inhibitors, increased bleeding (in patients with hemophilia) and diabetes/high blood sugar have occurred. Changes in body fat have been seen in some patients receiving antiretroviral therapy. Some patients receiving KALETRA have had large increases in triglycerides and cholesterol.

In clinical trials, the most commonly reported side effects of moderate or severe severity were abdominal pain, abnormal bowel movements, diarrhea, feeling weak or tired, headache and nausea. This is not a complete list of reported side effects. KALETRA oral solution contains alcohol.

KALETRA does not cure HIV infection or AIDS and does not reduce the risk of passing of HIV to others.

Please see adjacent page for Patient Information

*Based on IMS HEALTH National Prescription Audit Plus for Protease Inhibitor Class, July 2002–April 2003

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(lopinavir/ritonavir) capsules
(lopinavir/ritonavir) oral solution

ALERT: Find out about medicines that should NOT be taken with KALETRA. Please also read the section "MEDICINES YOU SHOULD NOT TAKE WITH KALETRA."

Patient Information
KALETRA®
(kuh-LEE-tra)

Generic Name: lopinavir/ritonavir
(lop-IN-uh-veer/rit-ON-uh-veer)

Read this leaflet carefully before you start taking KALETRA. Also, read it each time you get your KALETRA prescription refilled, in case something has changed. This information does not take the place of talking with your doctor when you start this medicine and at check ups. Ask your doctor if you have any questions about KALETRA.

What is KALETRA and how does it work?

KALETRA is a combination of two medicines. They are lopinavir and ritonavir. KALETRA is a type of medicine called an HIV (human immunodeficiency virus) protease (PRO-tee-ase) inhibitor. KALETRA is always used in combination with other anti-HIV medicines to treat people with human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infection. KALETRA is for adults and for children age 6 months and older.

HIV infection destroys CD_4 (T) cells, which are important to the immune system. After a large number of T cells are destroyed, acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS) develops.

KALETRA blocks HIV protease, a chemical which is needed for HIV to multiply. KALETRA reduces the amount of HIV in your blood and increases the number of T cells. Reducing the amount of HIV in the blood reduces the chance of death or infections that happen when your immune system is weak (opportunistic infections).

Does KALETRA cure HIV or AIDS?

KALETRA does not cure HIV infection or AIDS. The long-term effects of KALETRA are not known at this time. People taking KALETRA may still get opportunistic infections or other conditions that happen with HIV infection. Some of these conditions are pneumonia, herpes virus infections, and *Mycobacterium avium* complex (MAC) infections.

Does KALETRA reduce the risk of passing HIV to others?

KALETRA does not reduce the risk of passing HIV to others through sexual contact or blood contamination. Continue to practice safe sex and do not use or share dirty needles.

How should I take KALETRA?

- You should stay under a doctor's care when taking KALETRA. Do not change your treatment or stop treatment without first talking with your doctor.
- You must take KALETRA every day exactly as your doctor prescribed it. The dose of KALETRA may be different for you than for other patients. Follow the directions from your doctor, exactly as written on the label.
- Dosing in adults (including children 12 years of age and older): The usual dose for adults is 3 capsules (400/100 mg) or 5.0 mL of the oral solution twice a day (morning and night), in combination with other anti-HIV medicines.
- Dosing in children from 6 months to 12 years of age: Children from 6 months to 12 years of age can also take KALETRA. The child's doctor will decide the right dose based on the child's weight.
- Take KALETRA with food to help it work better.
- Do not change your dose or stop taking KALETRA without first talking with your doctor.
- When your KALETRA supply starts to run low, get more from your doctor or pharmacy. This is very important because the amount of virus in your blood may increase if the medicine is stopped for even a short time. The virus may develop resistance to KALETRA and become harder to treat.
- Be sure to set up a schedule and follow it carefully.
- Only take medicine that has been prescribed specifically for you. Do not give KALETRA to others or take medicine prescribed for someone else.

What should I do if I miss a dose of KALETRA?

It is important that you do not miss any doses. If you miss a dose of KALETRA, take it as soon as possible and then take your next scheduled dose at its regular time. If it is almost time for your next dose, do not take the missed dose. Wait and take the next dose at the regular time. Do not double the next dose.

What happens if I take too much KALETRA?

If you suspect that you took more than the prescribed dose of this medicine, contact your local poison control center or emergency room immediately.

As with all prescription medicines, KALETRA should be kept out of the reach of young children. KALETRA liquid contains a large amount of alcohol. If a toddler or young child accidentally drinks more than the recommended dose of KALETRA, it could make him/her sick from too much alcohol. Contact your local poison control center or emergency room immediately if this happens.

Who should not take KALETRA?

Together with your doctor, you need to decide whether KALETRA is right for you.

- Do not take KALETRA if you are taking certain medicines. These could cause serious side effects that could cause death. Before you take KALETRA, you must tell your doctor about all the medicines you are taking or are planning to take. These include other prescription and non-prescription medicines and herbal supplements.

For more information about medicines you should not take with KALETRA, please read the section titled "MEDICINES YOU SHOULD NOT TAKE WITH KALETRA."

- Do not take KALETRA if you have an allergy to KALETRA or any of its ingredients, including ritonavir or lopinavir.

Can I take KALETRA with other medications?*

KALETRA may interact with other medicines, including those you take without a prescription. You must tell your doctor about all the medicines you are taking or planning to take before you take KALETRA.

MEDICINES YOU SHOULD NOT TAKE WITH KALETRA:

- Do not take the following medicines with KALETRA because they can cause serious problems or death if taken with KALETRA.
  - Dihydroergotamine, ergonovine, ergotamine and methylergonovine such as Cafergot®, Migranal®, D.H.E. 45®, Ergotrate Maleate, Methergine, and others
  - Halcion® (triazolam)
  - Hismanal® (astemizole)
  - Orap® (pimozide)
  - Propulsid® (cisapride)
  - Rythmol® (propafenone)
  - Seldane® (terfenadine)
  - Tambocor™ (flecainide)
  - Versed® (midazolam)
- Do not take KALETRA with rifampin, also known as Rimactane®, Rifadin®, Rifater®, or Rifamate®. Rifampin may lower the amount of KALETRA in your blood and make it less effective.
- Do not take KALETRA with St. John's wort (hypericum perforatum), an herbal product sold as a dietary supplement, or products containing St. John's wort. Talk with your doctor if you are taking or planning to take St. John's wort. Taking St. John's wort may decrease KALETRA levels and lead to increased viral load and possible resistance to KALETRA or cross-resistance to other anti-HIV medicines.
- Do not take KALETRA with the cholesterol-lowering medicines Mevacor® (lovastatin) or Zocor® (simvastatin) because of possible serious reactions. There is also an increased risk of drug interactions between KALETRA and Lipitor® (atorvastatin); talk to your doctor before you take any of these cholesterol-reducing medicines with KALETRA.

Medicines that require dosage adjustments:

It is possible that your doctor may need to increase or decrease the dose of other medicines when you are also taking KALETRA. Remember to tell your doctor all medicines you are taking or plan to take.

Before you take Viagra® (sildenafil) with KALETRA, talk to your doctor about problems these two medicines can cause when taken together. You may get increased side effects of VIAGRA, such as low blood pressure, vision changes, and penis erection lasting more than 4 hours. If an erection lasts longer than 4 hours, get medical help right away to avoid permanent damage to your penis. Your doctor can explain these symptoms to you.

- If you are taking oral contraceptives ("the pill") to prevent pregnancy, you should use an additional or different type of contraception since KALETRA may reduce the effectiveness of oral contraceptives.
- Efavirenz (Sustiva™) or nevirapine (Viramune®) may lower the amount of KALETRA in your blood. Your doctor may increase your dose of KALETRA if you are also taking efavirenz or nevirapine.
- If you are taking Mycobutin® (rifabutin), your doctor will lower the dose of Mycobutin.
- **A change in therapy should be considered if you are taking KALETRA with:**

Phenobarbital

Phenytoin (Dilantin® and others)

Carbamazepine (Tegretol® and others)

These medicines may lower the amount of KALETRA in your blood and make it less effective.

- **Other Special Considerations:**

  KALETRA oral solution contains alcohol. Talk with your doctor if you are taking or planning to take metronidazole or disulfiram. Severe nausea and vomiting can occur.

- If you are taking both didanosine (Videx®) and KALETRA:

  Didanosine (Videx®) should be taken one hour before or two hours after KALETRA.

What are the possible side effects of KALETRA?

- This list of side effects is not complete. If you have questions about side effects, ask your doctor, nurse, or pharmacist. You should report any new or continuing symptoms to your doctor right away. Your doctor may be able to help you manage these side effects.
- The most commonly reported side effects of moderate severity that are thought to be drug related are: abdominal pain, abnormal stools (bowel movements), diarrhea, feeling weak/tired, headache, and nausea. Children taking KALETRA may sometimes get a skin rash.
- Blood tests in patients taking KALETRA may show possible liver problems. People with liver disease such as Hepatitis B and Hepatitis C who take KALETRA may have worsening liver disease. Liver problems including death have occurred in patients taking KALETRA. In studies, it is unclear if KALETRA caused these liver problems because some patients had other illnesses or were taking other medicines.
- Some patients taking KALETRA can develop serious problems with their pancreas (pancreatitis), which may cause death. You have a higher chance of having pancreatitis if you have had it before. Tell your doctor if you have nausea, vomiting, or abdominal pain. These may be signs of pancreatitis.
- Some patients have large increases in triglycerides and cholesterol. The long-term chance of getting complications such as heart attacks or stroke due to increases in triglycerides and cholesterol caused by protease inhibitors is not known at this time.
- Diabetes and high blood sugar (hyperglycemia) occur in patients taking protease inhibitors such as KALETRA. Some patients had diabetes before starting protease inhibitors, others did not. Some patients need changes in their diabetes medicine. Others needed new diabetes medicine.
- Changes in body fat have been seen in some patients taking antiretroviral therapy. These changes may include increased amount of fat in the upper back and neck ("buffalo hump"), breast, and around the trunk. Loss of fat from the legs, arms and face may also happen. The cause and long-term health effects of these conditions are not known at this time.
- Some patients with hemophilia have increased bleeding with protease inhibitors.
- There have been other side effects in patients taking KALETRA. However, these side effects may have been due to other medicines that patients were taking or to the illness itself. Some of these side effects can be serious.

What should I tell my doctor before taking KALETRA?

- *If you are pregnant or planning to become pregnant:* The effects of KALETRA on pregnant women or their unborn babies are not known.
- *If you are breast-feeding:* Do not breast-feed if you are taking KALETRA. You should not breast-feed if you have HIV. If you are a woman who has or will have a baby, talk with your doctor about the best way to feed your baby. You should be aware that if your baby does not already have HIV, there is a chance that HIV can be transmitted through breast-feeding.
- *If you have liver problems:* If you have liver problems or are infected with Heputitis B or Hepatitis C, you should tell your doctor before taking KALETRA.
- *If you have diabetes:* Some people taking protease inhibitors develop new or more serious diabetes or high blood sugar. Tell your doctor if you have diabetes or an increase in thirst or frequent urination.
- *If you have hemophilia:* Patients taking KALETRA may have increased bleeding.

How do I store KALETRA?

- Keep KALETRA and all other medicines out of the reach of children.
- Refrigerated KALETRA capsules and oral solution remain stable until the expiration date printed on the label. If stored at room temperature up to 77°F (25°C), KALETRA capsules and oral solution should be used within 2 months.
- Avoid exposure to excessive heat.

Do not keep medicine that is out of date or that you no longer need. Be sure that if you throw any medicine away, it is out of the reach of children.

General advice about prescription medicines:

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ARTS

2003 Gaylactic Spectrum Award Finalists announced

The Gaylactic Spectrum Awards, science-fiction fandom's award recognizing works of special and positive interest to gays, lesbians, bisexuals and transgendered people, has announced the finalists for their 2003 Awards, to be presented at the World Science-Fiction Convention in Toronto from August 28-September 1.

Awards will be presented in four categories for works originally released in 2002: Best Novel, Best Short Fiction, Best Genre Comic Book/Graphic Novel, and Best Other Work. To honor works released prior to the creation of the award in 1998, the jury will also announce new inductees into the Gaylactic Spectrum Awards Hall of Fame.

The Gaylactic Spectrum Awards are presented by the independent Gaylactic Spectrum Awards Foundation. The awards are juried, and finalists are selected by the juries from a pool of recommendations received through an open recommendation process. The list of finalists follows.

Best Novel *Dance for the Ivory Madonna*, by Don Sakers (Speed-of-C); *The Fall of the Kings*, by Ellen Kushner and Delia Sherman (Bantam Spectra); *Fire Logic*, by Laurie Marks (Tor); *Hommids*, by Robert Sawyer (Tor); *Lorimal's Chalice*, by Jane Fletcher (Fortitude Press); *Nightmare: A Novel of the Silent Empire*, by Steven Harper (Roc); *Solitaire*, by Kelley Eskridge (Harper Eos)

Best Short Fiction "Bugcrush," Scott Treleaven (*Queer Fear 2*); "For the Mortals Among Us," Robert Knippenburg (*Mind & Body*); "Night of the Werepuss," Michael Thomas Ford (*Queer Fear 2*); "Polyphemus' Cave," David Nickle (*Queer Fear 2*); "Three Letters from the Queen of Elfland," Sarah Monette (*Lady Churchill's Rosebud Wristlet #11*); "Till Human Voices Wake Us," Stephen Dedman (*Queer Fear 2*); "Unspeakable," MCA Hogarth (*Strange Horizons*)

Best Genre Comic Book/Graphic Novel *The Authority* (Issues 28 & 29), various (Wildstorm/DC); *Buffy the Vampire Slayer - Willow and Tara: Wilderness*, Amber Benson & Christopher Golden (Dark Horse); *Green Lantern: Hate Crime* (Issues 154 & 155), Judd Winnick (DC); *Murder Mysteries*, Neil Gaiman & Craig Russell (Dark Horse); *Uncanny X-Men* (Issue 414), various (Marvel); *X-Statix* (Issues 1-5), various (Marvel)

Best Other Work *Buffy the Vampire Slayer:* "Seeing Red," Joss Whedon, *et al.* (TV); *Eyes of the God: The Weird Fiction and Poetry of R.H. Barlow*, edited by ST Joshi, Douglas Anderson, and David Schultz (Hippocampus Press)(academic work); *Mind & Body*, edited by Cecilia Tan (Circlet Press)(anthology); *Queer Fear 2*, edited by Michael Rowe (Arsenal Pulp)(anthology); *Wired Hard 3*, edited by Cecilia Tan (Circlet Press)(anthology)

For more information about the Gaylactic Spectrum Awards, go to www.spectrumawards.org. Information on the World Science Fiction Convention can be found at www.torcon3.on.ca/. For more information about the Gaylactic Network, visit www.gaylactic-network.org. ▼

Eighth Blackbird

◀ Arts cover

cover that the 2000 Naumburg Prize included a commission by then-85-year-old composer George Perle. Perle's 11-minute *Critical Moments 2* (2001) consists of nine variations. The composer, known for his radical "12-tone tonality" reinterpretation of the music of Schoenberg and the Second Viennese School, imitates the instrumentation in Schoenberg's *Pierrot Lunaire*, with percussion substituted for quasi-spoken *Sprechstimme*. Lest this sound like nostalgia from an over-the-hill octogenarian, there's a huge variety of fascinating musical and emotional expression in Perle's short variations. Maccaferri calls them "fabulous."

The same can be said for David Schober's *Variations* (1998). The composer shared an Oberlin dorm-room with Eighth Blackbird's Albert, and wrote the work when he was 24 years old. His variations are based on harmonic modes developed by the late Olivier Messiaen. It's great stuff, and bodes well for the concerto Schober is writing for Eighth Blackbird.

As for Thomas Albert's *Thirteen Ways* (1997), Albert knows the sextet's members well; string player Matt Albert is his son. Honoring his gay son's love for soaring melody, father Thomas has composed a series of musical comments on visual images that sprang to his mind while reading Wallace Stevens' poem "Thirteen Ways." Imagine inspiration springing from a Stevens stanza such as, "I do not know which to prefer,/The beauty of inflections/Or the beauty of innuendoes,/The blackbird whistling/Or just after."

These words only begin to suggest the musical flights of fancy that await the adventurous. Check it out. ▼

Lang Lang

◀ page 29

find a balance of piano and other instruments that allows the brilliance of Tchaikovsky's orchestration to shine alongside the piano effects. This new version is Lang Lang all the way, with Barenboim (10 times the pianist Lang Lang is likely ever to be, but an uneven conductor) chasing his 21-year-old colleague around the score as if Lang Lang were some wild child, along the way drawing some of the most preposterous sounds I've ever heard from the Chicago Symphony.

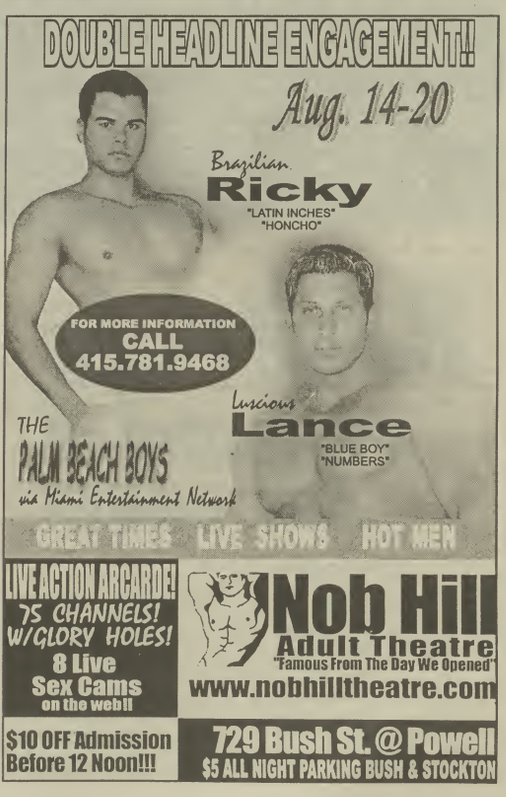
Faulty tempo relationships are near the heart of the problem. They break the long work into countless short sections, and Lang gives each its own often eccentric character, destroying the long line of the piece. Yet the fundamental problem is that Lang misses the soul of the concerto, something readily audible in the illustrious past performances and recordings of it. In its place are a disjointed series of musical episodes, pictures at an exhibition as larky as Walt Disney's images in *Fantasia*, which this wacky reading repeatedly calls to mind.

Lang has a large palette of musical colors at his disposal and a steely, if hardly faultless, technique. The famous double-octave passages have the requisite thunder, but the second, descending set deals the performance its single greatest blow. It's tempting to say that this shower of pianistic pyrotechnics rips the first movement in two, except that it was never in one. It's an excess that cannot be blamed on Lang's youth.

Fancy fingerwork is an important aspect of the Mendelssohn Concerto, too, but here the sense of inflation is even more apparent. In other hands, this concerto charms as well as dazzles, but this reading never ventures far beyond exhibitionism. It's like having the piece tattooed on your eardrums. Even its expressly tender moments, like the brief solo passages in the middle movement, are taken to extremes. People crucified Pogorelich for playing like this, but, with his more ingratiating personality, Lang is getting away with it. For now. ▼

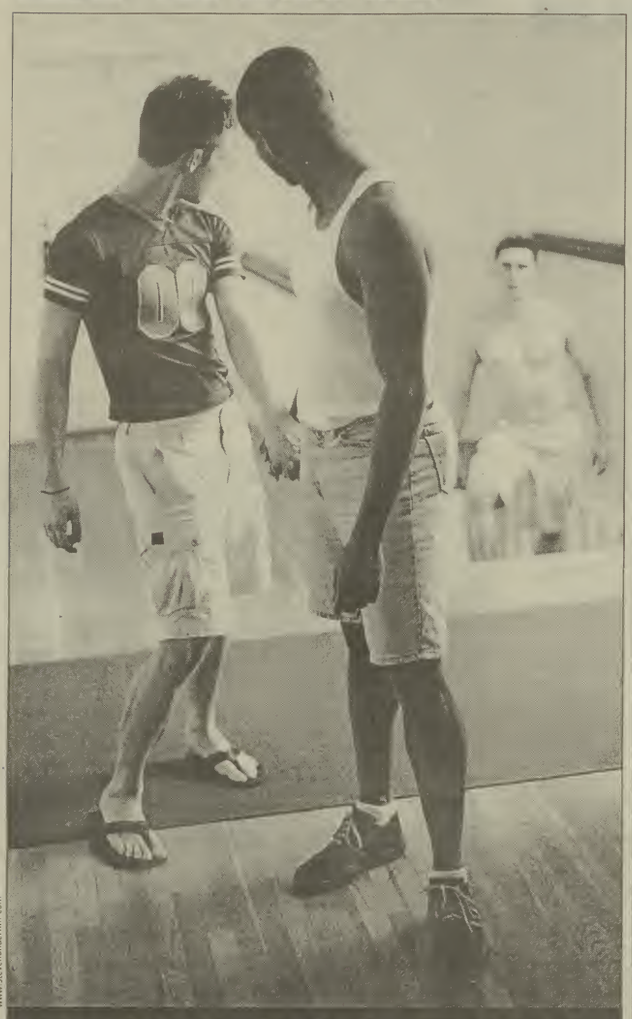








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PARTING GLANCES

"Belden Lane" 07/03
You, handsome Asian man, were with friends. We smiled several times as I walked through Belden Lane. Since you were with friends, I didn't come over. Call me. ☎ 72672

"Caught In Castro"
On July 12th before 8pm, I felt your glance and was then caught in it as we crossed 16th and Noe on Market (North side). You were heading East and I West. You have short, dark blond hair; fair, smooth & rosy complexion; 5'10-11 medium broad build, wearing green I think and maybe shorts to knees. I was tanned, dark balding hair, goatee, wearing dark green shirt and pants, maybe wearing metal-rimmed glasses. I was crossing street with two female friends (you may have seen)... We passed each other on each other's left. Would really like the opportunity to meet. I wanted to turn and approach you, but it felt too rushed and awkward there. Please respond if you think it may be you. ☎ 72687

Circle J - Saturday July 12th!
Had a great time meeting and talking. I couldn't stay for Sunday and couldn't get you in my luggage but I can come back. Call me. Big guy from LV. ☎ 72688

37 Bus Stop Castro Market 7/20
You dressed in purple tank top & olive shorts. We talked about Great July weather. You went to University of Oregon. My bus came. Call me! ☎ 72689

"Ken Berger Of Montreal"
Barhopping in Seattle call John. ☎ 72690

Russian River Area ISO
Wayne we used to be roommates and you worked at Sweets Restaurant. Also Richard Lanzendorfer and other old friends. I'm in Hawaii. Please contact me, Craig Bailey. Leave phone and address. ☎ 72699

Judah Muni 7/25
Thanks for the wave when you got off at Sunset. You: KQED jacket. Me: Denim shirts. Let's meet and talk. ☎ 72700

"Jeff, Where Are You?"
We got together a month ago, partied etc. and I love your thick dick. Please call me so we can get together again. ☎ 72705

Diamond Heights Safeway 7/29
You- green shirt, blue eyes- chicken potpie, milano lookies, milk for dinner. Me- grey polar-fleece, green eyes, tortilla chips, salsa, pepsi as snacks for friends. How about dining... together? ☎ 72706

SEEKING RELATIONSHIP

Goodlooking GWM 36
GWM CMT looking for Latino or Asian for friendship or LTR. I am HIV- disease free. I enjoy movies, the beach, dancing, holding hands. Let's talk. ☎ 72673

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Bottom with nice round medium ass. Masculine muscular body. Seeking 4 GWM who likes affection as sell great sex• around 6"to7" inch. Smooth slim muscular body. 5'6" to 5'11". ☎ 72674

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"Redhead"
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Mulatto Guy Sexy Light-Skinned
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WM 48, 6, 165lbs, Dark Hair
ISO M over 55 who enjoy deep kissing, affection, oral pleasures. Husky/heavyset, bearded, rustic-looking, liberal views, loners a plus. Smoking ok but no drugs or gay scene. ☎ 72708

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Pool Boy Wanted
Couple GLM 45 225, GWM 40 165, seek hot pool boy. We are goodlooking, hot, HIV-, fun, you be GWM 21-35, horny, fun, safe blond+, pool, hottub. Eastbay. ☎ 72684

Hispanic Lover Man
(Oh where can you be?) I'm looking for the right Hispanic guy for a relationship, etc. If hung A+. Call me. ☎ 72695

Interested In Meeting #72660
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Seeking GAM/GHM. We are on a spiritual path and have a zest for life. N/S, N/D, any age. I'm a young 61 yo sober Unitarian Buddhist, 5'10", 175#. ☎ 72697

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Straight White Men!
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Spank My Butt & Plow My Ass!
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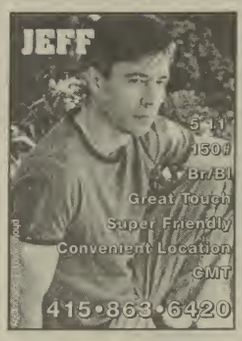
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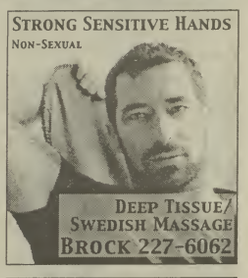
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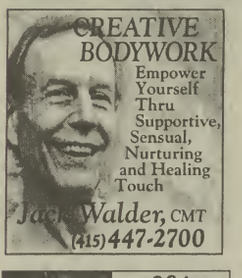
















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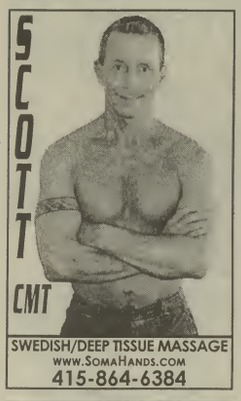
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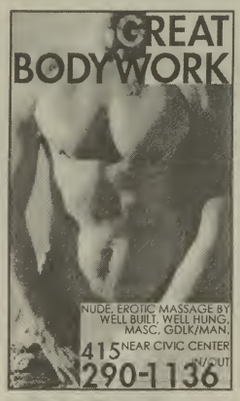
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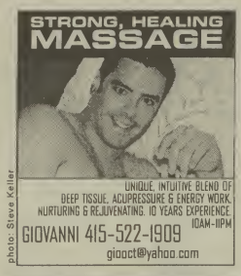
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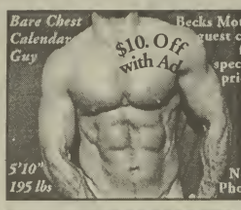
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MASSAGE

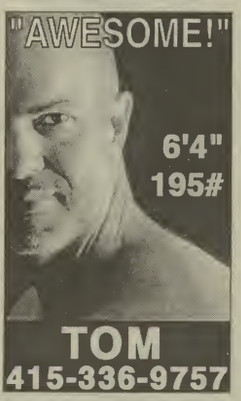


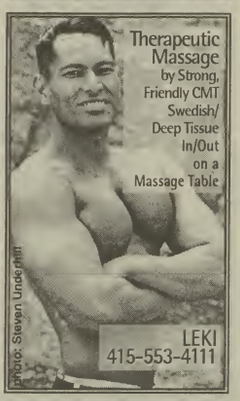


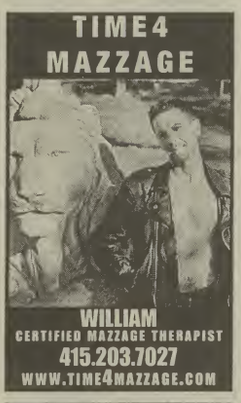






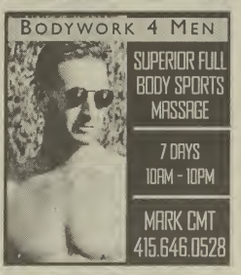


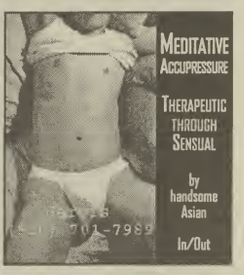


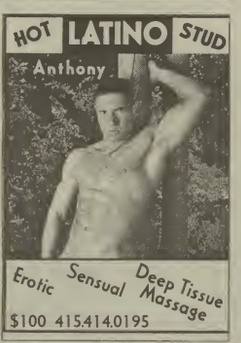


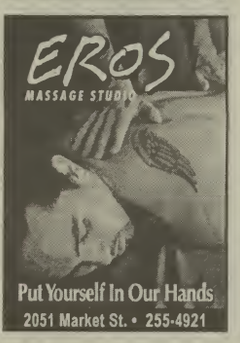


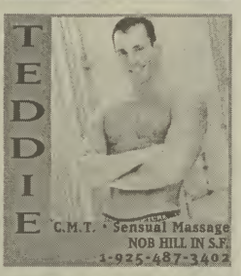






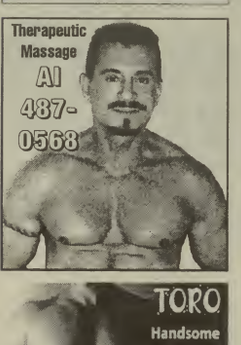


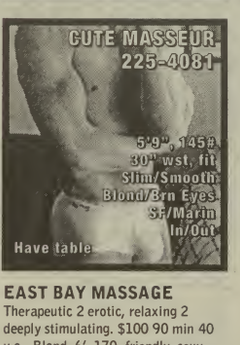




















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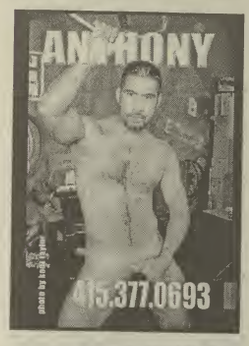
MASSAGE

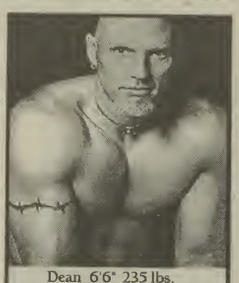






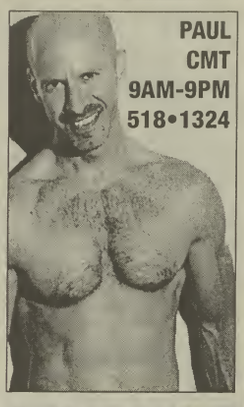


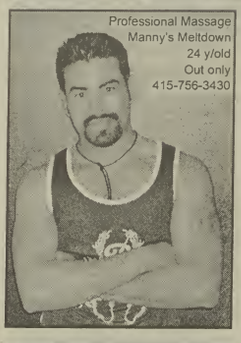


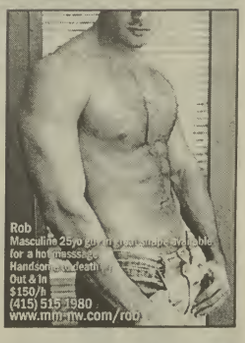


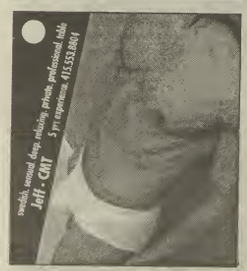
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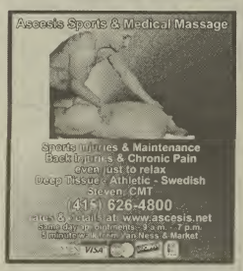




















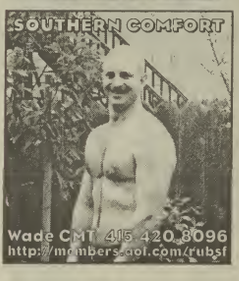
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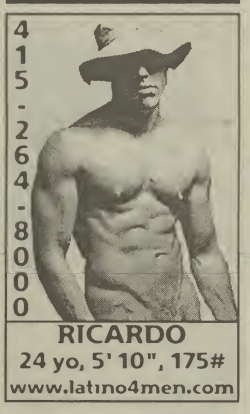




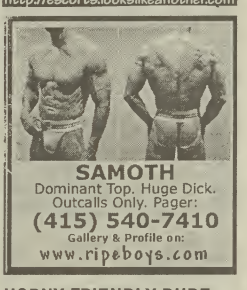
















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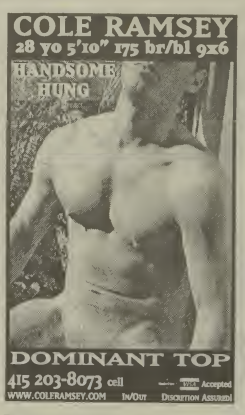
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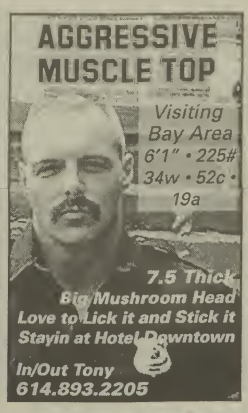
FUN SEXY COLLEGE BOY
White 20yo 6'2" 160 8"uc
outcalls in SF and East Bay
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PERSONALS

MODELS/ESCORTS

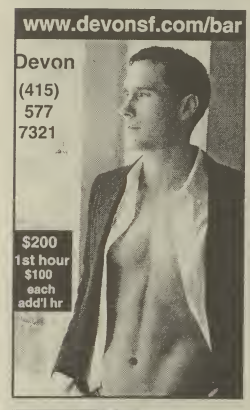




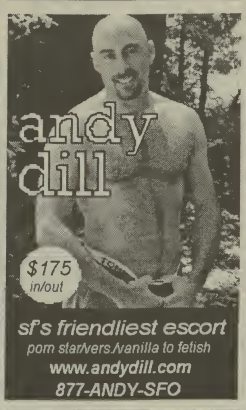


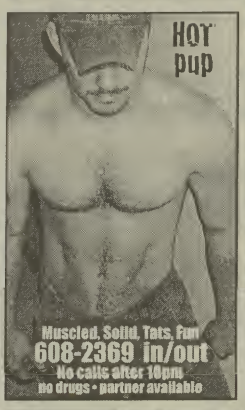


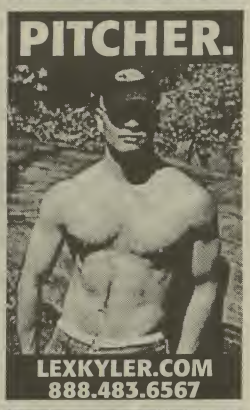


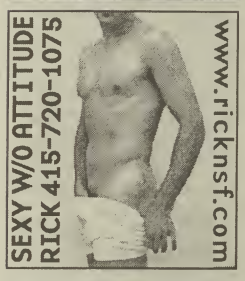






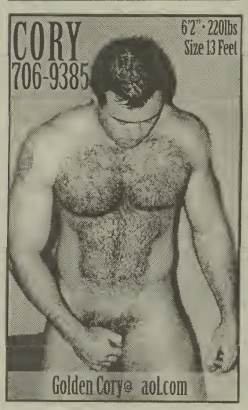


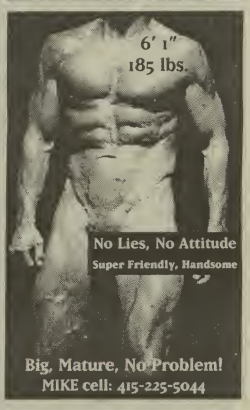












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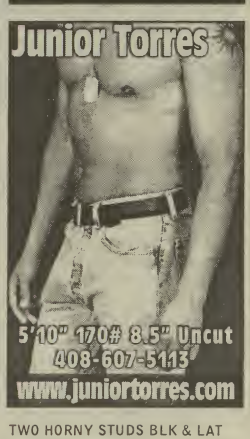
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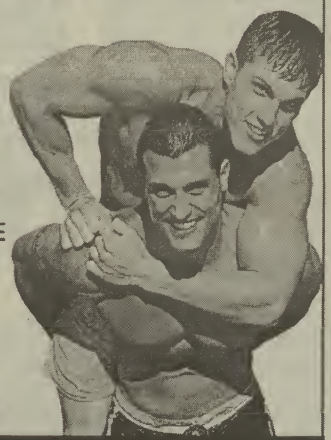
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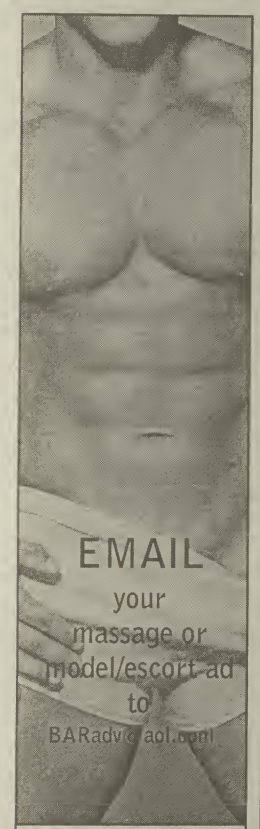
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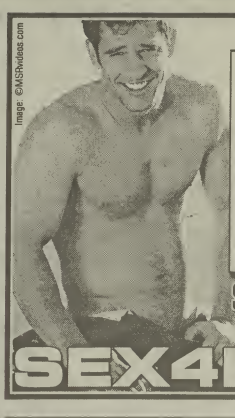


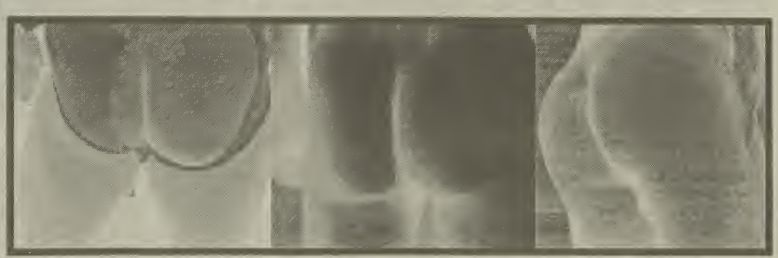
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